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### Algeria urges allies to quash militants

TUNIS (R) - Algeria on Friday urged its allies to quash Muslim fundamentalists, hours before a security meeting between interior ministers of four Southern European countries and three North-African states. "We are going to work ... to make our Mediterranean partners aware of the terrorism bydra and drive and eradicate this plague which threatens the future of economies and the stability in the region." Algerian Interior Minister Abdul Rahman Meziane Cherif said upon his arrival in Tunis. He is expected to take part in a two-day meeting with the interior ministers of France, Italy. Spain. Portugal, Morocco and Tunisia to coordinate the fight against violent Muslim fundamentalists; European diplomats said. The meeting, dubbed "4.3," was suggested by France's Interior Minister Charles Pasqua. It was to open either on Friday night or Saturday morning, they said. See related story on page 12



### Christopher announces war on crime

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Friday announced a campaign against international terrorists, criminals and drug traffickers. including lougher laws on asset seizure, visas and alien smuggling. In a prepared foreign policy speech, Mr. Christopher announced a five-point plan: — to insist that other countries extradite or prosecute international fugitives and ensured convicted criminals serve tough sentences. — to develop with other governments tough asset forfeiture and money laundering laws; - to toughen U.S. visa standards to make it harder for criminals 10 gain entry to the country. — to propose legislation to combat alien smuggling and immigration fraud with harsher penalties; to expand U.S. laws against terrorists and funding for their

Volume 19 Number 5823

AMMAN SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1995, SHAABAN 20,1415

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

### King consoles Syrian leader

AMMAN (Petra) - His Majesty King Hussein on Fri-day telephoned Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to offer -consolation for him and his family on the first anniversary of the death of his son, Basel Al Assad. The Syrian president expressed his appreciation of the King's feelings and wished him continued good health.

#### Japan's Naruhito visits Mideast

TOKYO (AFP) - Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako of Japan left Tokyo on Friday for an official 11day visit to Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan. It was the couple's second visit to the Middle East since they visited Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain last November. Officials said the crown prince and princess would stop overnight in Singapore before \_arriving in Knwait on Satur-States and bulled by day. The pair travel to the United Arab Emirates on Jan. 23 and to Jordan three days later. They return to Japan on Jan. 30 after another overnight stay in

### Clinton ratings on the rise

WASHINGTON (AFP) President Bill Clinton's job treat alcoholic performance ratings are on the rise, according to polls released this week. An NBC-. Wall Street Journal survey released Friday showed 50
released Friday showed 50
rent approve of Mr. Clinton's handling of both foreign and economic policy, while his overall approval rating was 45 per cent, down slightly from 48 per cent in a similar poll in December. In a CNN-USA Today poll, some 56 per cent said they viewed Clinton favourably, np from 48 per cent on Dec. 30. His job performance in the CNN-USA Today survey was 47 per cent, up from 40 per cent.

#### Plane with 16 aboard crashes in Siberia

MOSCOW (R) — A Russian transport plane carrying 14 passengers and two crew crashed soon after take-off in Siberia on Friday, ITAR-TASS news agency said. There was no word on casualties. TASS said the Czechmade I-410 twin-turboprop plane went down near the airport at the town of Krasnoyarsk. It gave no reason for the crash. Official figures show at least 287 people died in 1994 in crashes in Russian

### Ten die In Paris piane crash

airspace.

PARIS (AFP) — Ten people were killed when a Mystere Falcon 50 executive jet made an emergency landing in flames at Le Bourget airport Blind man 'see' The plane crash-landed as it tried to Princess Diana after one of its engines caught fire. It had just taken off me. It had just taken off from Le Bourget, rescue services said. Aviation anthorities said all seven passengers and three the said all seven passengers and three crew aboard the plane were killed. The aircraft, belonging to the leadair company Leadair company, crash-leadair company, crash-leadair company, crash-leadair company, crash-landed on the main runway scattering debris over several scattering debris over several hundred metres and burned there. The alarm to the main runway there. The plane's flight plan rate rated And him. The possession for Romania. The possession for Romania.

Hellef agencies to stay in Somalia

MOGADISHU (AFP) She had spencies in Somalia pledged agencies in Somalia pledged Friday that they would stay he had some on after the decomposition. Friday that they would stay on after the departure of the U.N. troops but expressed fears about security. George Bennett, spokesman for the U.N. Operation in Something 

# King and Mubarak meet in Aqaba today

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak are expected to meet at Aqaba today for talks on bilateral relations, the Middle East peace process and the situation in the Arab World in general in the first visit of the Egyptian leader to Jordan after the Gulf crisis.

It was not immediately clear whether the Aqaba talks were to be a preliminary meeting between the two leaders ahead of a Feb. 1 visit that President Mnbarak was scheduled to make to the Kingdom. The Feb. 1 visit was agreed upon during talks Mr. Mubarak held with Foreign Minister Abdul Karım

Kabariti in Cairo on Jan. 12. Meanwhile, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh was due in Damascus late Saturday and most probably in Jordan on Sunday, raising the prospect of a trilateral summit at Aqaba: But analysts said it was unlikely.

takes place, then it would be the first among the three after the 1990-91 Gulf crisis. which saw Jordan and Yemen on what some Arab leaders perceived as the Iraqi side of the fence while Egypt was

staunchly on the other.
The King's meeting with
President Mubarak comes amid increasing calls from various Arab quarters emphasising the need to rally Arab ranks as the Middle East slowly moves towards Arab-Israeli peace.

It also comes prior to an expected visit to Jordan by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat for talks with King Hussein on Jordanian-Palestinian relations and issues related to the peace

Among the topics for discussion between the King and President Mubarak, who met last in July 1994 in Alexandria, Egypt, are Jordanian-Egyptian relations, the status of the Middle East peace process and efforts to heal the inter-Arab differences If indeed such a summit left behind by the Gulf crisis.

Egypt recently criticised Jordan for signing the Oct. 26 peace treaty with Israel without Syria and Lebanon arriving at a similar accord with the Jewish state. A further strain appeared after Egypt played a key role in excluding any reference to Jordan's role in Jerusalem while including a reference to Saudi Arabia in a resolution adopted by the Organisation of Islamic Conference in Morocco in De-

Since then, however, relations appear to have improved cnnsiderably after Mr. Kabarin's visit to Cairo nine days ago. In addition to arranging a Mubarak visit to Jordan and coordinating positions at the OIC's Jerusalem Committee meetings in Morocco last week. Mr. Kabarin also paved the way for reviving the Higher Jordanian-Egyptian Joint Committee — a key body that used to chart relations in all areas prior to the strain caused by the Gulf crisis.

In addition to seeking (Continued on page 7)

# Kabariti describes Ifran meeting

### as an important achievement Committee met, said he also

AMMAN (J.T.) -- Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti returned home on Friday after attending a Committee in Moroco and said the conference was an important achievement since it was the first such forum which was not split by Arab or Muslim differences.

In arrival comments, Mr. Kabariti, who also visited Tunisia on his way home from the Moroccan resort of with Faisal Husseini, Abbas Ifran where the Jerusalem Zaki and Hakam Balawi, all

By Natasha Bukhari

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Israeli Foreign

Minister Shimon Peres will

visit the Kingdom "as soon as

possible" for talks with

Jordanian officials on Jor-

dan's position vis-a-vis the

peace process in light of the

latest developments on

Jordanian-Arab relations, di-

plomatic sources said Friday.

recent telephone conversa-

tion between Mr. Peres and

His Royal Highness Crown

Prince Hassan dealt with the

Iaraeli minister's coming

visit, bilateral relations and

preparations for the econo-

mic summit the convening of

which bas been postponed

from July to October pending

sufficit support for the meet-

The sources said that a

met in the Tunisian capital with senior Palestinian officials and directisted meeting of the Jerusalem Jordanian-Palestinian relations, which, he said, "will witness improvements in the next few days." That appeared to be a reference to an expected visit to Jordan by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, with whom Mr.

Peres due here 'soon' for talks

on ties amid Jordan-Arab moves

summit which was held in

Mr. Peres' expected visit

comes after breakthroughs in

Jordanian efforts to improve

strained ties between the

Kingdom and some Arab

states as well as the Palesti-

nian National Authority

A visit to Cairo on Jan. 12

by Foreign Minister Abdul

Karim Kabariti resulted in

arranging a summit meeting

between Egyptian President

Hosni Mubarak and His

Majesty King Hussein to take

place here in the first week of February.

Palestinian contacts suc-

ceeded in containing the re-

cent strain in Jordanian-

Palestinian relations. The

Also, intensive Jordanian-

(PNA).

Morocco late last year.

Kabariti held talks in Ifran. Mr. Kabariti met in Tunis of them senior Palestinian officials.

At the Ifran meeting, Mr. Kabariti said, Jordan clearly presented its stand on Jerusalem to the panel, an offshoot of the 52-member Organisation of Islamic Con-"Jordan firmly stressed its

principled stands, especially those concerning measures taken by Israel in Jerusalem," the Jordan News

(Continued on page 7)

Sunday ahead of a visit to

Amman by Palestinian leader

Bnt Israel is "anxiously

Yasser Arafat on Jan. 25.

observing Jordan's moves to-

wards mending ties with Arab states," said the sources, adding that the Jew-

ish state "fears that these

moves might undermine the

Jordanian-Israeli peace trea-

ty and both sides' pledge to

establish warm peace be-

They added that Tel Aviv

was seeking assurance from

Amman that Jordan's steps

towards Arab reconciliation

would not have any negative impact on Jordanian-Israeli

The Oct. 26 peace accord

calls for "establishing normal

relations" between the two

tween them."

relations.

# Syrian envoys to meet

Israeli,

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's army radio said on Friday the Israeli and Syrian ambassadors to the United States would meet next week in Washington in a fresh attempt to revive stalled peace talks.

The radio, quoting Israeli Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich, said the talks would last 10 days and might be followed by a meeting between senior army officers of the two countries.
Prime Minister Yitzhak

Rabin's spokesman, Oded Ben-Ami, said of the radio report and similar accounts in Israeli newspapers: "I can't say if they'll meet

because I don't know." Haaretz newspaper said the talks would focus on arranging a first summil between Mr. Rabin and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

The two countries laun-ched peace talks more than ihree years ago bui have failed to agree on terms for a settlement. Formal negotiations broke down last February, but Israeli and Syrian ambassadors to the U.S. bave since held several meet-

ings, Last month the two countries' army chiefs met to discuss security arrangements.

"Negotiations will resume next week at the level of ambassadors and take place again after another 10 days when senior army officers should attend," Mr. Rabinovich told Israel's military radio station on Friday. "I think the Syrians want

to reach an agreement and today they understand that they cannot dictate conditions to us. "But I am less sure that

they have understood the importance of the time factor," he said. General elections are due

in Israel in November 1996 and this year is considered the last chance for Prime Minister Rabin to seal an accord based on land-forpeace. Mr. Rabin reiterated this

week his call for President Assad 10 agree to mee1.



# Kobe fights to survive; toll rises

KOBE (Agencies) — Residents of Kobe struggled to regain a sense of normality Friday after the loss of nerlry 5,000 relatives and friends aselectricity returned to parts of the wrecked city and clean-

up operations got under way. Empror Akihito, who had offered a donation, promised a visit to the devastated area, as charges flew about the inadequate preparation and the slow response of emergency services following

Tuesday's earthquake. Massive damage from the quake, which measured 7.2 on the Richer scale and struck Kobe and other parts of western Japan, killed at least 4,438 people with 673

reported missing, according to official reports. Trained dogs flown in from Switzerland were still searching for survivors three days after the port city and sur-

rounding areas were devastated by the worst temblor since the great Tokyo earth-quake of 1923 in which 140,000 people died. More than 40,000 buildings

and homes were destroyed in and around Kobe. Prime Minister Tomiichi

Murayama admitted at the opening of the Diet's 1995 regular parliamentary session Friday that "there was apparently confusion as we did not have any experience.

morning." "We are aware that it is an extremely important task for us to build up our risk management system in disasters." he added, amid heckling from the floor.

His statement may not

have been heard in Kobe's western district in Nagata one of the worst-hit areas where entire blocks of wooden houses were burned to ashes by fires erupning

after the quake. "Do you see down there? That's where my house was," said a man pointing his finger at a scorched, empty plot of land. There is nothing left bere, except the smoking re-mains of houses and uniden-

tifiable, disfigured objects scattered on the ground.
The streets of Nagata are mostly empty, and where houses are still standing, elec-

At important intersections. tanker trucks distribute water to residents, who sullenly wait in line.

tricians are trying to restore

It will take weeks to put the water system back in order, but local authorities overwhelmed with work in the first couple days of the quake aftermath are beginning to get organised. Japanese business has

taken gradual steps to pro-(Continued on page 7)

### Israel, PLO march on through settlement storm OCCUPIED JERUSALEM are not as big as before." Mr.

(Agencies) - Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have kept alive their autonomy negotiations despite a gathering storm over the pursuit of Jewish settlement building.

Calls from senior Palestinian figures to halt the talks were temporarily silcaced as Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat pul on a brave show, stressing commitment to implementing the second phase of self-rule.

"The meeting Thursday was very important because they decided to go ahead." Israeli government spokesman Uri Dromi told AFP.

"The real negotiations will start next week and take several weeks," he said predicting an agreement within a few months.

"The Palestinians accept the principle of limited redeployment. The differences Dromi claimed. He admitted nonetheless that "on core issues there was

no progress." However, Mr. Arafat and Mr. Rabin may only have delayed the decisive battle leaving officials to find a way out of a stalemate which has already seen implementation slip seven months behind

schedule. Mr. Arafat demanded "bonest and accurate" implementation, meaning quick army redeployment outside Palestinian towns to enable elections to be held. Mr. Rabin, demanding more effort, settled for more nego-

tiations to find agreement. With Mr. Arafat prepared to plough on, the focus switches to the Israeli government itself which is squirming under the spotlight of attention on settlement policy.

homes this year and for Jerusalem to swallow up more of the West Bank, the cabinet is set for a potentially explosive meeting on the policy on Sunday.

Mr. Rabin's assurances of a freeze on new Jewish settlement contrasted starkly with the visible expansion of Israeli colonies and land grabs which have ignited repeated clashes on the West Communications Minister

Shulamit Aloni, one of four left-wing ministers who threatened to quit last week unless the seillers were reined in, was not ready to take Mr. Rabin's pledge at

face-value. "The promises Rabin made to Arafat have to be checked out on the ground. We have to wait and see what happens in cabinet.

I bope that after Sunday's

(Continued on page 7)

mand said Friday that "the

five guerrillas killed on

# Israeli 'copters attack S.Lebanon

Amid leaked reports of plans to build 7,700 Jewish

TYRE, Lebanon (R) -Israeli hebcopters attacked an abandoned army barracks in South Lebanon on Friday, bours after Israeli soldiers killed three guerrillas in a firefight, security sources

Two belicopters fired at least one rocket and about 1,000 heavy machinegun rounds at the barracks near the market town of Nabatiyeh where guerrillas were believed to be hiding, they said. There was no immediate word on guerrilla casual-

Guerrillas fired at least three missiles at the attacking choppers but failed to hit them, the sources added.

Israeli soldiers and guerrillas had fought with machineguns and anti-tank rockets overnight in the rugged Wadi Al Slougi on the borders of Israel's occupation zone in South Lebanon.

The bullet-riddled corpses of two guerrillas were taken to a village hospital by multi-national U.N. peacekeepers operating in the south, the sources said. They said a third guerrilla died in hospital in the southern port of Sidon and a fourth was wounded.

The pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God), a faction bent on driving Israeli troops out of South Lebanon, claimed responsibility for the attack saying its fighters clashed with an Israeli force in Wadi Al Slouqi.
On Thursday, Israeli troops killed five Palestinian

guerrillas of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) in a clash in the zone in which two Israelis were wounded.

PFLP-GC said Thursday's ambush was in retaliation for a massive Israeli air raid on Sunday against a PFLP-GC post in hills south of Beirut in which three people died.

About 1.000 Israeh troops and 3,000 allied South Lebanon army militia patrol the zone, which Israel established in 1985 to curb guerrilla raids on its north (see page

Another two men believed to be Palestinian guerrillas were found dead from wounds apparently suffered in the exchange with Israeli troops, security sources in a neighbouring U.N.-policed area said.

In Israel, the army com-

Thursday were aided by another squad which was giving cover fire and firing mortars at Israeli defence forces." The Israelis "opened fire at them, causing deaths and wounded." Thursday's casualties

raised the overall toll of escalating violence in Snuth Lebanon since Jan. 1 to 12 killed and 17 wounded.

Two U.N. peacekeeping positions were hit by Israeli tank shells during Thursday night's fighting. The attacks cansed damaged but no casualties and prompted the United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon (UNIFIL) to lodge a protest with the

Israeli army. UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel said three tank shells struck a Nepalese peacekeeping post near the village of Yater, with at least one round scattering hundreds of steel darts.

"The Nepalese were simply lucky," he said Friday from UNIFIL headquarters in the border town of Nagoura.

Also, an Irish UNIFIL position sustained shrapnel hits from an Israeli tank shell

### ing which will be a follow-np two sides have agreed to hold (Continued on page 7) to the Casablanca economic minister-level meetings on Chechen pockets hold out against Russian onslaught

GROZNY (Agencies) — Pockets of Chechen resistance in central Grozny held out against the Russian army and intensive bombing on Friday as refugees fled in

terror. Chechen leaders said they were determined to resist despite the fall of the presidential building to Russian forces on Thursday and the Russian onslaught Friday.

In Moscow, an aide to President Boris Yeltsin said that the capture of the presidential building "can certainly be considered as the final act of the Chechen tragedy. Aslan Maskhadov, head of

the Chechen forces general

staff, said the separatists had

abandoned positions in the

city centre, notably around

the railway station where

heavy fighting raged through the night.

But his independence fighters had taken up new defensive positions on the eastern bank of the Sunzha River that divides the capital.

Mr. Maskhadov said he was now in a stronger defensive position and that he had only abandoned the presidential building after a penetration bomb pierced the concrete, threatening the bunk-

"Our positions here are much better, and if the Russians want to cross the river they will have to pay a very high price," he said. Russian artillery and air-

craft rained explosives around the devastated presidential building to wipe out resistance.

Russian helicopters flew

to call on Chechens to surrender, promising they would be well treated. "You are surrounded. Your only chance for survival is to lay down your arms," a speaker blared.

But Russian army commanders admitted that Chechen forces were still operating, Interfax news agency reported. About 1.500 men on the Chechen side armed with rocket launchers and anti-

tank grenades were in the

southern Chernorechye suburb. Interfax said. One fighter, Yusyp Mtaranov. 42, said: "If we have to die, we will die. But they will have to kill every Chechen, one by one. We will fight for

(Continued on page 7)

Se'eda Kilani

w the Jordan Times

Deputy Prime
and Minister of InMarkhaled Karaki has

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# Israel is 'losing patience' Jordanian youth killed in Grozny in S.Lebanon, Lahd says

Israel is "losing patience" with Lebanon's official suppost for guarrilla groups like the transactionised Hizbolich, the communder of its grows militar in South Lehanon has warned.

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"The situation is not very coim and unless it changes the Lebanese government will have to pay the consequances." Antoine Lahd, a relifed Lebahric atmy general.

Gen. Lahr commands the Fragemen South Lebanon Army (SLo.) militia, trained end financed by Istael and tasked with helping Israeli friogs control un 1,000square-killometre "security green north of the interna-(Jopa) border.

Minitiamer controls 20 frontline not tions while farach troops man only three. neluding the formidable Beaution Cashe nestled on a maintain peak that com-

Den Lahd was speaking Thursday are a few hours tefate İstueli troops killedi. 🦥 🧓 Palesti (an guerrillas in a such near the botder that 2.27 総位 two soldiers wound-

Appopular to the Popular First for he Liberation of Paratine General Command, a Damascus-based organisation hospile to the Araf-Israeli neare ptocess, the guernius ambushed an armitiated Israeli convoy. AFP correspondents tourng the core Thursday saw al ciliumn of tanis, armoured

A.JMAN (3.7.) — The Amman-based General Isla-

mic Congress for Jerusalem

has eatled on U.S. House of

Rupresentatives Speaker -

Newt Gingmen to reconsider.

his still for moving the U.S. ambassy in Israel from Tel

Avey to occupied Jerusalem.

the General Islamic Congress

for Jerusalem has followed

with concern and anxiety

your call for the transfer of

the U.S. ambassy in Israel

from Tel Aviv to occupied

Jerosalem." said a letter from

tay organisation to Mr. Ging-

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The executive board of

ary vehicles entering the buffor area from northern Israel. It was not immediately clear if this was part of troop rotations or reinforcements.

"The Israelis are becoming nervous. They are losing patience and are about to do something because they see that Hizbollah is leading the Lebanese government.

They can shake up the Lebanese government at any moment and by any means. he said without elaborating. 'Certainly the Israelis have no interest in massacring the population in South Lebanon) but they could force them to flee the region.

through tetalia ary shelling of villages, he said. "They have their own interests to safeguard and I will not be able to do anything. he said.

Israel carried out a sevenday blitz on South Lebanon in 1995, killing niore than 150 people and forcing hundreds of thousands to flee their homes after repeated attacks on northern Israel.

Israeli political and military leaders have ruled out a large-scale offensive against South Lebanon but repeatedly called on Lebanon and Syria - which (eploys 35,000) troops in Lebation — to rein in the guerrillas.

But as Hizboliah stepped up calls on the SLA militiamen to repent or face death. Lebanese government offitinued to condone its crusade

Gingrich to reconsider Jerusalem call

rights of the Musiim.

Christian citizens of this

occupied Holy City," said the

letter, a copy of which was

faxed to the Jordan Times.

ity party and speaker of the

House of Representatives

majority party, we urge you

and reassess your position to

support the right and just

solution for the cause of Jeru-

salem as occupied territory

since 1967 which Security

Council resolution 242 has

identified and which the gov-

ernment of the U.S. has

"We assure you that calling

for moving the American

salem will have its negative

impact on all arabs. Muslims

and Christians around the

world. It will demoralise the

American pones towards

peace, justice and people's

Bilipinos in Saudi killings executed

say why two were strung up.

The display aimed to

underscore the punishment

and act as a deterrent. It is

derived from Islamic law, by

Cases passing through Saudi Arabia's samic courts

often take years to conclude.

However, this case, which

provoked national outrage.

less than three months.

sped through the courts in

The Filiping reportedly sought \$10 million ransom

when they stormed the Rajht

mansion Oct. 22, first killing

a male and a female Indone-

room where Mr. Rajhi's wife.

two small shildren and

They then broke into the

sian servant. 🦠

which Saudi Arabia rules.

but the third was not.

"As a leader of the major-

Lebanese Defence Minister Mohsen Dallul also pledged SLA militiamen would be tried for treason if Israel pulled out of the zone. Gen. Lahd brushed aside Mr. Dallul's comments as

'meaning nothing to me." Last week Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin pledged continous support for the SLA and said peace with Lebanon depended on the disarming of Hizbollah and the integration of the militia in Lebanese army

Mr. Rabin made the remarks during a morale-boosting tour of the zone. Israeli parliamentary speaker. Shevah Weiss, followed in his footsteps and also called on Gen. Lahd Thursday.

1994 compared to 17 the previous year, according to Lebanese security officials. "Militarily Hizbollah has not succeeded." Gen. Lahd said, although he admined

The SLA lost 34 men in

the group was very well equipped and trained. They were also being used as a card hy Syria in its

negotiations with Israel. Anti-Israeli resistance in South Lebanon has existed since 1967, first with the Palestinians and now with Hizhoilah "but it hasn't changed anything." Gen. Land stressed.

"I have been here for 11" years and in all that time we've had only 30 deset-

# General Islamic Congress urges

rights. We hope that your

personal role in the ongoing

peace process will remove

obstacles rather than compli-

cates the situation which

needs justice, wisdom and

right for achieving a sound

and just solution for Jeru-

U.S. State Department

spokeswoman Christine Shel-

whether "the State Depart-

ment would be bound to fol-

low the orders of Congress if

Congress ordered the U.S.

embassy in Israel to be

moved from 161 Aviv to Jeth

salem? In other words, is that

within the purview of Con-

gress to dictate such a

Ms. Shelly replied: "I think

that's a legal question, or at

least I would want to consult

the department's legal advi-

sot before I would answer

that. I will check on that."

another maid were hiding.

Police surrounded the

house and tried to negotiate

for the release of the nos-

tages, with the help of a

Philippines embassy staffer.

according to an Interior

Ministry statement at the

But the Filipinos, who also

sought arms and safe trans-

pon outside the country for

themselves and the hostages.

killed one child and stabbed

their other hostages to prove

Police then stormed the

room and were violently re-

sisted by the kidnappers, one

threat of deatn.

was asked during a

ednesday press briefing

crease since the fund was set up in 1991 by President Sbeikh Zaved Ben Sultan Al Nahayan in a bid to encourage UAE men to marry local Officials said the new rise

would be covered by allocations from the 1995 federal budget, yet to be released.
"The increase in the capital

was necessitated because of a surge in demand for grants," the fund official said.

Grants of up to 70,000 dirhams (\$19,073) are given to men wanting to marry local women to help them meet soaring dowries and wedding costs, which can exceed \$100,000. However, apcost weddings are rejected.
"We have just approved 72

new applications for grants and turned down one application," fund director Jamal Al Bah said. "That one was rejected be-

cause the down involved is as high as 120,000 dirhams (\$32,700) and this contravenes the fund's objectives and policies." High downes, the money

paid by a bridegroom to his oride under Islamic law, have forced men in the UAE and other cil-rich Gulf states to and held them hostage under look abroad for cheaper brides, mainly to Egypt and But officials have criticised

such marriages saying many iccal women are being left spinsters and most of mixed marriages end in divorce because of different traditions Fund officials say their

work is having a positive results with an increase in local marriages.
So far it has given out

nearly 200 million dirhams (\$54.5 müllen) in grants. It has also organised seminars and is planning to launch an awareness campaign in schools.

# who were reportedly

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - A young Jordanian of Chechen ongin was killed last week in the Chechen capital of Grozny, the first-known Jordanian victim in the sixweek-old war, the youth's family said Friday.

The youth was identified as Marwan Taha Ulby of Zarga.

According to a family friend and member of the Jordanian Committee for the Support of the Independent Caucasus Republic of Chechenya (JCSCP) Adnan Younis Matthab, the family received nonfication of Ulby's death a few days ago.

Mr. Marthab. who said he was with the Ulby family on Friday, told the Jordan Times that Ulhy, a mechanic had emigrated to Chechenya last August to set up a workshop there.

UAE

tund

boosts

marriage

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Ris-

ing demand has prompted the

United Arah Emirates

(UAE) to boost the capital of

a state fund set up to encour-

age marriages between local

people by belping to pay for dowries and weddings.

Friday that the capital of the

marriage fund will be in-creased to 250 million

dirhams (\$68.1 million) this

year from 150 million

It is the second capital in-

dirhams (\$40.8 million).

A fund official told AFP

He become involved in the war in Chechenya launched by Russia which moved its troops to the breakaway republic on Dec. II, Mr. Matthab said.

One of Marwan's brothers, who is a student in Grozny and is still there, informed the family of bis death and said that he had been buried there.

No precise details were available as to how he was killed except that the death was directly related to the fighting.

Marwan Ulby, who was

Sheikh Taba Ulhy, an imam at the Chechen mosque in Zaroa Mr. Matthab said Sbeikh Taha was visiting some mosques in Amman to col-

unmarried, was the son of

Chechen cause. Meanwhile, there has been no word on the fate of two Jordanian students, also of Cbechen origin,

lect donations for the

arrested by Russian authorities more than 10 days ago. JCSCP Chairman Said Bino said the committee was awaiting information from the International

Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) which had promised assistance in locating the students. Mr. Bino added that a group of more than 20 Jordanian-Chechens in-

tending to return from the war-torn republic to Jordan were still believed to be area of Southern Russia. Reports said earlier this month that many of them

had lost their passports and were not permitted to leave Mr. Bino said the Jorda-

nian government would probably airlift those in Daghestan and transport the group hack here after securing Russian govern-ment clearance.

# Police kill 4 suspected extremists in S. Egypt

CA1RO (Agencies) — Police shot and killed four suspected Islamic militants in a dawn raid Friday in soutbern Al Minya province, security officials said.

In a separate incident late Thursday, suspected Muslim extremists gunned down a Coptic Christian in his bome in a village near Mallawi. 260 kilometres south of Cairo.

The victim was identified as Agaibi Yousef Milad, 45. In Friday's raid, police forces acting on a tip stormed an apartment where the four extremists were hiding in Al Adwa town in Minya province, 220 kilometres south of Cairo.

Local security officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said police seized several submachine guns and makeshift bombs. They also arrested six men believed to have taken part in the extremists attacks on police, the officials said.

Muslim extremists have waged a campaign of violence since the spring of 1992 to try to overthrow Egypt's secular government and replace it with strict Islamic rule.

The killing of four raised the death toll in three years of violence to nearly 600,

The gun battle erupted in the militant stranghold of Mallawi when police came to arrest the men wanted for attacks on fellow officers. they said. Police seized five revolvers

and sticks of TNT as well as documents on activities of the outlawed Al Gamaa Al Islamiah (Islamic Group).

Two other militants were wounded in raids of "terrorist hideouts" in the same region, while 13 militants and 26 other people suspected of involvement in recent attacks against police were arrested in Minya province.

The raids were carried out after security forces learned from militant leaders who had given themselves up earlier in the week that fundamentalists "planned to step up attacks in Minya province," police said.

A total of 598 people including militants, policemen, Christians and tourists 1992 when militants launched a campaign of violence aimed at toppling the secular government of president Hosni

# Comprehensive peace is U.S. priority — Pelletreau

WASHINGTON (USIA) -U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Robert Pelletreau reiterated that "a comprebensive and just peace" remains the Clinton administration's top priority for the coming year.

The senior State Department officials was given an "overview" of U.S. policy goals and achievements in the Middle East in a briefing for reporters at the Foreign Press Centre on Thursday.

He noted that over the last 16 months there has been "steady progress" toward the goal of an Arab-Israeli settlement, "and we bope that in the year ahead we will be able to register further prog-

Mr. Pelletreau, who was to travel to the Middle East this weekend, said that the United States will in the coming months try "to build and maintain" security arrange-

ments that "assure stability in

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

the Gulf region and continuing access to its petroleum resources." These, he said, are vital to the world's economic prosperity.

He added that the United States will remain 'vigilantto prevent Iraq and Iran from threatening regional secur-ity" and will work on "bolstering the collective defence capabilities" of the Gulf's Arah states. The United States, be

added, will continue to press for Iraqi compliance with U.N. Security Council resolutions and to make Iran "a good neighbour rather than an aggressive neighbour in the region."

He described the recent meeting of Algerian opposition leaders in Rome as "a significant event," and added that the Clinton administration continues to counsel the Algerian leaders on the path toward political dialogue and a return to political proces-

# **NEWS IN BRIEF**

### Prosecutor seeks rights activists' acquittal

ANKARA (AFP) — Ankara's state security court prosecutor is appealing the recent acquittal of six human rights activists who were charged with separatism, the Turkish Human Rights Foundation said Friday. The organisation in a communique said the prosecutor had filed his appeal January 11, the same day the six were acquitted in a move seen as a gesture to appease western criticism of Ankara's human rights record. The six activists, who include the president of the foundation. Yavuz Onen, and the head of the Turkish Human Rights Association, Akin Birdal, had. been charged with "separatism" after making allegations of torture and other rights abuses in published statements concerning Turkey's Kurdish minority. A month before their acquirtal, the same court had handed down stiff prison sentences against eight former deputies of Kurdish originwho faced similar charges. The sentences had sparked widespread criticism in Europe and were largely responsihle for the postponement of a customs accord between Turkey and the European Union. The six buman rights' activists had faced prison terms of between six months and

### 'No Israeli nationality for disloyal citizens'

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Israeli nationality should be taken away from those who are "disloyal" towards the state." under a proposal put forward by the internal security service Shin Beth, the radio reported Friday. The measure targets Arah Israelis who join Palestinian groups, but could also be used against Jewish extremists who have emigrated to Israel, the state channel said. A committee of Justice Ministry representatives and security officials has been set up to study the recommendation. Existing Israeli administrative legislation - under which citizens can lose their nationality for disloyalty — is contested by legal experts who argue the state has recourse to charges of treason, spying or contact with enemy.

### Tanzania to reopen ties with Israel

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Tanzania will soon reopen diplomatic ties with Israel after they were broken off more than 20years ago, Israeli radio said quoting Labour Party Secretary General Nissim Zvili. Mr. Zvili on a visit to Dar Es Salaam met this week with President Adi Hassan Mwiny who said the east African country was ready to reestablish diplomatic links, the radio reported Thursday. Tanzania was among about 20 African countries that broke off diplomatic ties in 1973 following the Arab-Israeli war.

### Israeli police caught smuggling videos

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Airport customs officers caught three Israeli policemen trying to smuggle in video recorders on their return from three months on international duty in Haiti, the authorities said Friday. The men were fined and now face a police inquiry after an otherwise exemplary spell belping to hring democracy to Haiti after the U.S. invasion last year.

### Libyan official reappears in public

NICOSIA (AFP) - Major Khweildi Hmeidi, an aide to

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, has reappeared in public 10Vernment pro for the first time since September ending rumours that he was in disgrace, according to a report. Lihyan radio, monitored in Cyprus, said Mr. Hmeidi on Tuesday delivered a speech in Zuara, western Libya, to mark the anniversary of a student demonstration against the monarchy in the town in 1964. Unconfirmed rumours had spread that Mr. Hmeidi had fallen from grace since he had failed to attend ceremonies held in September in Tripoli to mark the 25th amiversary of Colonel Qadhafi's coming to power. King Idriss Sanussi was topplejd in 1969 by Col. Qadiafi. and 11 other army officers, including Mr. Hmeidi and Major Abdul Salam Jalloud. Maj. Jalloud, who had been considered Libya's second-in-command, has not been seen on the political scene since August. Of Col. Oadhairs former companions in the coup. Libyan state-run media has only mentioned since September Colonel Aba, Bakr-Younes Jaber, the armed forces commander, and Major. Mustapha Kharrubi. The others have over the years either fled ahroad, perished in unexplained accidents or been kept away from official duties in Libya.

### Lebanese dies in Israeli jail after torture

BEIRUT (AFP) - A 28-year-old Lebanese held without trial for 10 years in an Israeli prison in southern Lebanon has died after being tortured, a Lebanese prisoners, solidarity committee said Wednesday. Haytham Dabaja died on Monday in a Marjayoun hospital in Israel's self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon after being taken there, a committee monitoring Lebanese prisoners in Israeli jails said. It is the third reported death within a month connected with the Khiam prison, the main detention centre in the zone which has been closed to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) since it was opened in 1983. Two ex-prisoners, Salim Awada and Ali Al Ghul, apparently died in December in Beirut a few days after they were freed.

# Palestinian returns after 25 years

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) - Israeli authorities, in 2 rare move, allowed a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) member absent from his native land for 25 years to return, interior ministry officials said on Friday. They said security officials dropped their objections las month to the return of Sabri Jiryes, a leader in PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatch movement and a member of the Palestine National Council. Israel let thousands of Palestinians return to the occupied West Bank after signing a peace deal with the PLO in 1993, but it was the first. known case where a PLO activist was allowed to return.

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I Jordan Times Saff Reporter

the govern pension of ≥ bs promised to help men in vis with living conditions unned servicemen and milee at the of Finance to draw Armed F intaled plan, said Aref that the f in lead of a panel repteaid to the न be retited officers. be increase gatement to the Jorbe provide lines Friday, one day vicemen v te committee's meeth Prime Minister Shara Ben Shaker, Mr. a said Shanif Zeid has to consider all the

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<sup>† Jennifer</sup> Hamarneh Tan Times Staff Reporter MAN - So far the new

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WEATHER Bulletin supplied to the Department of Meteorology

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**AIRPORT** 

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# N BRIEF Information minister pledges more cooperation with press

By Sa'eda Kilami

Security of 5th human in Special to the Jordan Times

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Friedrick has be Sa'ah, that were accused of Existing Israeliate publishing information and interns can be material that infringe upon

The three newspapers, which have a wide circulation I ties with Israel in the last few weeks for publishing photograhs of semi-naked women and sen-ican Labour Panets satismal stories that JPA Edition Labour Pany Ser claims were baseless and with Hassan Manager fabricated.

A: Hassan Manny the "In the study we (the JPA)

The stablish the carried out on the three discovered that Tanzania was weeklies we discovered that weekies were fabricated," Mr. Al Qudah said. But there should be a reevat smuggling vide luation of the way the local press operates in general." The JPA president said the Tallord meeting with Dr. Karaki fo-Talional de cused on enhancing coopera-

The real time ment, the press and the assoin all after the diagon, but stressed there should not be any leoiency towards "moral violations" opears in public and the publication of scan-

of the retired servicemen and has set up a committee at the

Ministry of Finance to draw

op a related plan, said Aref Oteibi, head of a panel repre-

senting the retired officers.

the sean- In a statement to the Jor-

dan Times Friday, one day

aeli jail after toll if Zeid Ben Shaker, Mr.

requests presented to him by

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Khaled Karaki

dals and rumours. However, Mr. Qudah stressed the importance of the role of the judiciary in press violations. He said all cases are now referred to the courts to have a final say. which "does not always work to our advantage. Nevertheless, it is a positive step in the history of our press.

Several cases are now filed against some newspapers for alleged violations of the press and publications law enacted in 1993. Despite criticism hy some weeklies and journalists over the many gaps they see as existing in the new law, there are no indications of the government's intention to amend the law in the near future, observers say.

At present, the main concern is JPA's law which is currently being studied by the Judiciary Committee of the Lower House of Parliament.

"The present law does not incorporate the necessities of the new stage," Mr. Qudah said. "There is no harmony between the Press and Publications Law, the Political Parties Law and the association's law. It should be changed.

JPA is abiding hy a 1983 temporary law that replaced

the committee before taking

decisioos concerning the

Armed Forces pensioners.

that the funds allocated for

aid to the children of martyrs

be provided to retired ser-

vicemen with low incomes

and who have no bomes, said

requested that the govern-

ment participate in projects

carried out by the Jordanian

Economic and Social Orga-

Tete Montoliu to present

'menu of jazz perennials'.

He said the committee also

Mr. Oteibi.

be increased and that housing .

Government promises to improve

retired servicemen's conditions

By a Jordan Times --- a working paper.

AMMAN — The govern- pension of the retired service-

ment has promised to belp men in view of the high cost

Hear: improve the living conditions of living, that it consult with

after the committee's meet-

ing with Prime Minister Shar-

Oteibi said Sharif Zeid has

promised to consider all the

the committee in the form of

By Jennifer Hamarneh

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - So far the new

year's line up of guest

artists being brought to Jor-

standiog-room-only per-formances. Jazz-addicts are

in for a major treat Mon-

day night, when the National Music

Conservatory/Noor Al

Hussein Foundation and

the Instituto Cervantes will

present "the unfettered

lyricism of Spanish keyboard master Tete

Born Vicens Montoliu Massana in Barcelona in

1933, Tete's life-long

musical career spiralled in

style, format and distance.

Staff Reporter

"We have demanded the government increase the



Suleiman Qudah

enacted in 1953. The present law does nor give mem-bership to journalists working in partisan newspapers. Although the weekly newspaper, Al Sabeel, reflects the policies of the Islamic Action Front party, Mr. Qudah said the JPA does not consider it a pa⊓isan paper. All other partisan newspapers are licensed, but are not JPA members.

Mr. Qudah said the meeting also tackled the situation of journalists working at the Jordan News Agency, Petra. Although it is a government institution, Petra is not included in the Civil Service Law, and employees do not enjoy the benefits and raises that other governmental institutions do.

Also on the meeting's agenda was JPA's preparations for the general conference of the International Organisation for Journalists to be held here on Jan. 28 and attended by journalists from more than 110 coun-

The conference, which is convening in Jordan for the first time will focus on press freedoms and conditions of journalists worldwide, and will include a special session the association's original law on wnmen and journalism.

ment (ÆSORS) and belp it

to succeed by providing

funds, equipment and exper-

tise from the Armed Forces.

was established by the gov-

successfully and required

assistance from the govern-

Mr. Oteihi who retired

with the rank of hrigadier

said that his 38-member com-

mittee came into being at the

first convention of retired

officers held at last month

and was charged with follow-

ing up matters related to im-

prove the living conditions of

the retired servicemen.

ernment, was not operating

He said JESORS, which

# Head of reform Zionists group ends visit promising to secure support for Jordan

AMMAN (J.T) - The president of the Association of Reformed Zionists of America Ammil Hirsch and an accompanying association delegation wound up a severalday visit to Jordan Friday by promising to intensify efforts in the U.S. Congress and in the media to ensure continued and increasing support for Jordan.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, before his departure for home, Mr. Hirsch said that his association would also urge the world community to provide

continued moral and financial support to Jordan as a part of the Middle East peace

Mr. Hirsch said that Jordan was in need of assistance to activate its national economy and to raise the standard of living of its people, and any help to the Kingdom would reflect positively on the peace process, according to Petra.

Mr. Hirsch and his delegation last Monday met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and discussed the Middle East as well as

prospects for increased aid to the Kingdom.

The visiting American team ended a tour of the region designed to study the implementation of the peace process and discuss the obstacles in its way, said the agen-

It quoted Mr. Hirsch as saying that his association of 1.5 million members will now embark on a wide-scale campaign inside the United States to mobilise political and economic assistance for the peace process, adding that Jordan's role is considered pivotal in the success of the peace process.

Mr. Hirsch said that his association would immediately start contacts with coogressional members, the media and American decisionmakers to ensure the flow of economic assistance to the Kingdom, recalling that President Bill Chinton promised aid to Jordan during his visit

to the Kingdom last October. Stressing the need for the exchange of land for peace, Mr. Hirsch said that his association supported the government of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rahin and its plans for peace with the Arab countries

Voicing his association's support for Jordan's stand. Mr. Hirsch said that for peace to endure, all elements of anxiety, fear of conflict and other negative elements should be removed.

The Crown Prince bad told Mr. Hirsch and his team that there was a need to base peace in the Middle East on material guarantees that would reflect positively on the lives of people in the

# First explosives plant to start up in April

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The first Jordanian plant producing commercial explosives is expected to go oo stream in April, plugging another gap in a commodity that is seen to gather increasing demand as the Kingdom implements some of its ambitious infras-

tructure projects.
Bassam Fakhouri, director-general of the Chemical and Mining Industries Company, said the com-pany's plant, being built in an area designated as an industrial zone oear the Al Hassa Phosphate Mines, also plans to start producing detonator fuses in the last quarter of this year. "Eventually, the area will house six or seveo plants producing a series of chemicais that Jordanian industries need." Dr. Fakhouri told the Jordan Times.

Initial production of the chemical and mining company will be "commercial explosives which are used in road building, excavations, quarries and elearing areas to construct dams." Dr. Fakhouri said. He added that the company did not plan to produce explosives for military purposes.

Jordan is planning to build several thousand kilometres of roads and dozens of dams in the next few years to cope with expected rise in demand

for transport facilities and water. The phospbate mining industry, which is gearing to increase its production to cope with the needs of fertiliser plants coming up in the south, is expected to be one of the major buyers of the

company's products.

The chemical and mining company is a private sector company with public sector participation. The government-owned Jordan Phosphate Mines Company and the Industrial Development Bank bold 20 per ceot and 10 per ceot respectively of the company's JD I millioo capital, and the private sector

holds the rest. The plant is being built by the Indo-Burma Petroche-

micals Company and is expected to be commissioned and ready for production in April, Dr. Fakhouri said. The Indo-Burma Petrochemicals Company, an India-based firm, will also operate the company's productioo facilities for a period of five years under a turnkey con-

tract worth \$700,000. The total cost of the plant is JD 1 million, including the civil works provided by the

company, Dr. Fakhouri said. Jordan's present oeed of explosives is worth about \$4 million every year and the Kingdom imports the products from India, Pakistan and several other Asiao countries. A limited quantity of explosives are also mixed

locally. The local production mostly involving manual work - is expected to be completely eliminated when the new plant starts produc-

Dr. Fakhouri said the company was well aware of environmental concerns that go hand in band with any plant prodocing explosives and had opted for a technology that does not iovolve bigbpolintant nitrogen-content raw material.

He said the planned facility to produce detonator fuses would have an annual production capacity of five millioo metres and "we hope that plant will start producing in the last three months of

# Police arrest suspects in dinar forgery scheme

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Police have arrested an unspecified number of suspects in connection with the forgery of JD 20 dinar notes and would announce the details of the affair soon, said Friday.
They confirmed reports in

the local press that the arrests nisation-for Retired Servicetook place early this week, and that a quantity of the counterfeit currency was

> Closer details of the case were not immediately availclined to elaborate.

> According to the reports, a large group was behind the forgery, described as the largest operation of its kind in the country, and some of its members were arrested while in possession of the counterfeit currency. However, Central Bank of

> Jordan (CBJ) officials and police said that the group did not manage to market any sizeable volume of the forged

Walid Khairallab, deputy governor of the CBJ, said only a limited quantity of the forged notes appeared to have entered the market, and that the counterfeit was easily detectable hecause of poor quality. The paper used for the counterfeit was also distinct from the regular paper used to print currencies.

Mr. Khairallah, in a statement carried in the local press, said attempts were made earlier to forge JD 20 notes and were thwarted, and that some had also tried to forge JD 10 bills.

issued the warning over the latest forgery and gave the details of the distinguishing differences between the genuine and counterfeit hills.

In a memorandum it sent to banks and financial institutions that deal with banknotes, the CBJ provided more details of the differences, reports said.

These included, in addition to the texture of the paper, difference in sizes: ...

- The picture in the water mark of the forged note is not clear or missing altogether; - The colours on the reproduction of the photos of and the Dome of the Rock on

the two sides of the forged note are either too light or too hlack. - The silver metallic band on the face of the forgety is wider than the genuine hill;

The logo "Central Bank of Jordan" that appears in

the middle of the genuine bill is missing in the forgery. Most moneychangers said they had not come across the

forgery, substantiating the authorities belief that only a limited volume of the counterfeit had entered the mar-In another case, a local conference. repoп said police were sear-

ching for an Arab national who had handed over counterfeit \$100 hills to some people in downtown Ammar bevestors. fore disappearing. The case The hotel and the duty came to light when those who received the notes wanted to change it and were arrested promprly because the curren-Further details of the bizar-

appointed.

# RJ commercialisation in progress; but regional coalitions being studied

By Cathy King Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Commercialisacon of Royal Jordanian (RJ) has begun, but deregulation, liberalisation and mergers of major international airlines are forcing it to consider coalitions with other regional airlines,

say RJ officials. Commercialisation began recently with a shares sale of Alia Gateway Hotel and the duty free shop at Queen Alia International Airport (QAJA), RJ Ex-Toukan told the Jordan

Times, Friday.

"Seventy-five per cent of the hotel and 25 per cent of the duty free shop were sold about 10 days ago," to twn government-guided agencies: The Social Security Corporation and the Corporation for Development of Tourism, Mr. Toukan said.

Commercialisation of RJ is the first step towards eventual privatisation which should be achieved within the next two years, according to RJ officials who addressed last month's annual sales and marketing

Commercialisation is being pursued to make the national carrier more attractive to prospective in-

free shop will be jointly administered by Royal Jordanian and the government-guided agencies, Mr. Toukan said, adding that a board of directors will soon be

Mr. Toukan confirmed that development of four

new duty free outlets in the haggage claim areas is in progress; two of them will be open 24 hours.

"The four new duty free

shops are to enhance sales and to provide more services to passengers," he said. No date has been set for the opening. Further commercialisa-

tion proposals of the catering and training facilities, maintenance and all cargo operations were announced in December.

Earlier this month the Arab Airlines Carriers organisation (AACO) Planning and Economic Affairs Committee met to discuss the feasibility of future coalitions.

"Through mergers or cooperation with other airlines in the region we will be able to be more competitive. A single bloc would operate like the bloc formed by European airlines." AACO Planning and Economic Affairs Committee Chairman Ihsan Naghaway told the Jordan Times.

During the meeting a strategy for Arab airlines to confront and overcome challenges facing the Arah World's air transport indus-

try was discussed, he said. These challenges have heen created by liberalisarion, globalisation and regional unities of the major international airlines. Mr.

Naghaway said. Open sky policies, which have led ro a price war in Europe and Nonh America, have rendered Royal Jordanian unable to negotiate favourable rates for flight paths, fuel, handling

and landing fees through-

out the world, Mr. Naghaway said.

Royal Jordanian, among many other airlines, is subject to higher fuel prices in Europe than the bloc of European airlines, although they use the same supplier, he cited as an example.

This policy will also allow any airline to fly here direct.
"By creating a bloc of

Arab airlines, everything would be less costly for us," he said, adding that this would enable fare prices to he more competi-

Each of the 18 Arab carriers is a member of the AACO, but only nine were represented at the meeting: Saudia, Gulf, Egypt, Emirates, Yemen, Middle East, Kuwait, Sudan and Royal Jordanian airlines.

One strategy of the proposed bloc would be to "head towards privatisation," he said, as privatisation would "ultimately benefit the customers.

Privatisation, however, remains in the hands of the internal policy-makers of each individual airline, Mr. Naghaway said, but he asseried: "We as a committee (AACO Planning and Economic Affairs Committee) promote privatisa-

Of RJ's own moves towards privatisation. Mr. Naghaway said that the airline was progressing steadily towards that goal.

The meeting's proposals. Mr. Naghaway added, will be summed up and pre-sented to AACO chief executives for approval and future implementation.

### re case were nor immediately On Monday, the CBJ

Lecture entitled "Synthesis of the Ristory of the Muslims in Spain" by Dr. Fares Al-Fayez at Instituto Cervantes (the Spanish Cultural Ceotre) at 6:00 p.m.

cy was forged.

Seminar (in Arabic) entitled "Does Israel Really Want Normalisation?" with the participants of Bahjat Abu Gharbieh, Fakhri Qu'war, and Taher 'Udwan, at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation at 6:00 p.m.

Poetry recital by Rashid Issa at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art at 6:30 p.m.

Exhibition of works by Iraqi artist Fakhir Muhammad at the Ab'ad Art Gallery. ★ Exhibition of "Arab Contemporary Art" at Mona

Saudi studio, Abdonn village (Tel. 829700). ★ Exhibition of the works of Lebanese artist Amin Al Basha at Darat Al Funun. Also showing another exhibition entitled "Phase II-Doors and Windows" by Jordanian artist Ghada Dahdaleh and works by

contemporary Arab artists. Cultural Centre).

Educational works depicting the life of "Voltaire" at the French Cultural Centre. Exhibition of works by Hala Mahayni at the Petra

International Hotel in Agaba. 7 Exhibition of abstract art by Zakaria Barakat at the Housing Bank Gallery.

# Inspection bureau finds 310 government department violations

AMMAN (Petra) — The Administrative and Inspection Bureau last year discovered 310 violations by government departments and saved JD 3,133,765 of state funds in the orocess, according to acting head of the bureau Eid Shakhanbeh Friday.

Reporting on the bureau's activities during 1994, Dr. Shakhanbeh said that his department examined the financial and administrative situations of 24 different government ministries and departments where it found some violations and preempted the

implementation of certain measures, saving the country funds that could have been unnecessarily wasted.

Dr. Shakhanbeh said that the violations were found by bureau inspection teams in procurement and purchase units, in spending on scho-larships and training, in implementation of the departments' projects and in other

The bureau last year received 327 complaints from civil servants on unorthodox administrative activities in their departments and has dealt with 70 cases so far. Apart from dealing with complaints and violations, the bureau participated in several government depart-

ments' studies of laws and regulations recommended to reform the public administration system, Dr. Shakhanbeh He said the bureau's activi-

ties extended beyond the government's offices and dealt with companies in which the government has invested capital.

# SSC's 1994 investments total JD 97m

AMMAN (Petra) - The Social Security Corporation (SSC) last year invested JD 97 million in different projects in Jordan, thus raising to JD 642 million the corporation's total investments, according to a SSC report

Friday. The report said the total investments earned JD 223.4 million in profits since the creation of the SSC in 1980 to the end of 1994.

In 1994 the SSC registered another 1,200 companies and

institutions, raising to 9,200 the total number of organisations covered by the corporation, said the report which added that 280,000 workers in the government and private sectors are now covered by the SSC.

#### Lionel Hampton during the famous vibe player's concerns in Barcelona. So impressed was Hampton MARKET PRICE who was futored by Don Byas, that be bired bim on the spot for a short concert tour in France. In the mid-60s he met el sammari - gi with great success playing for nearly three months at

New York's famous Village New York's famous Village
Gate.

His popularity soared in Europe during the 70s and in 1979 be toured the U.S. His American audiences demanded an encore tour in 1980 during which he accorded live the famous his more celebrated Boston Concett," one of

albums.
In the 80s he toured Europe, the U.S. and



Tete Montoliu

cording 13 albums under the title, "The Music I Like

blind and has severe hearing problems, offered no evidence of any handicaps in his dazzling solo recital. His left hand is powerful enough to constitute a rbythm section in itself. bloes, he displayed his crisp articulation and a harmonic

tour decades. He swings as consistently as any pianist who ever grew up outside the native land of jazz." On a hot Wednesday might in Café de Copain,

hanging onto every note."
Tete Montoliu's solo re-

# WHAT'S GOING ON

More recently Tete has adopted the solo piano format, "allowing himself to explore his vast repertoire on a series of dazzling improvisations." On this concept, Tete is currently re-

to Play.' Jazz Review wrote of bis appearance in Los Angeles, "Montolin, who is Opening with a moderato sensitivity that suggested

the be-bop era updated by

Tete made his Toronto debut. The Canadian daily, The Globe and Mail, described Tete as having various things up his sleeve, quite possibly an extra pair of hands and ce⊓ainly a rich, almost mischievous, sense of humour. His imagination must be seething with ideas, but his playing seems entirely un-burried. .. With midnight approaching, a hot packed house café was obviously

cital will be performed at the Philadelphia Hotel at

# Mandela: Indemnity row resolved

PRETORIA (R) - Presi- talks, Mr. De Klerk told redent Nelson Mandela said Friday a row over apartheidera indemnities threatening the stability of South Africa's national unity government had been resolved in talks with his deputy, F.W. De

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"We will be issuing a state-ment this afternoon. You will see from the statement that the issue has been resolved." he told reporters after talks with Mr. De Klerk at the union buildings in Pretoria.

"Let hygones be bygones, the important point is that Deputy President De Klerk and I have made very good progress," he said, without

The meeting was called after Mr. De Klerk said a serious crisis had crupted over the indemnity issue, prompting reports that he might withdraw from the ninemonth-old administration. Before taking part in the

porters the resignation reports were incorrect.

"I would like to correct that...I said: 'We should leave the government,' and that my ministers convinced me I should not. That is absolutely incorrect. I said we should seriously consider all the options," a relaxedlooking De Klerk said, with-

out claborting. Mr. De Klerk was holding talks with fellow Deputy President Thabo Mbeki Friday afternoon and was not available for comment.

On Thursday night Mr. De Klerk launched a blistering attack on Mr. Mandela's African National Congress (ANC), telling the opening session of his National Party's annual congress there was a "serious crisis" in the govern-

The National Party is a junior government partner of

During Wednesday's cabinet meeting ANC ministers had "viciously insulted" him and his party over the issne of iodemnity for politically-motivated crimes and their attitude to a programme of reconstruction and development, he said. Malan.

"The attack was unfair, unjustified and totally unacceptable. It was so serious that I felt myself obliged to inform the cabinet that I would have to reconsider my position," Mr. De Klerk said in his speech.

The ANC leadership will have to take appropriate steps, without delay, to remedy the unfair, unjustified and unacceptable attack on our integrity and good faith,'

The ANC-led cabinet Wednesday decided immunity from prosecution for apartheid crimes for two former

ministers and 3,500 policemen had never been granted.

The party had accused Mr. De Klerk's former government of trying to cover up buman rights abuses by wanting indemnity for the policemeo, their former Minister Adriaan Vlok and ex-Defence Minister Magnus

Bnt Mr. De Klerk said similar amnesties were granted to several thousand ANC members and accused Mr. Mandela's party of setting double standards. Mr. De Klerk also said in

his speech to the party that the crisis went much deeper than a row over indemnity for apartheid crimes and that "a fresh start" was needed. This was the motivation behind Friday's meeting.

'If the reaction is positive the government of national unity will, I hope, soon continue with the good work that has already begun.

# Death toll tops 200 in frozen Kashmir, 400 trapped

JAMMU, India (AFP) - Indian army troops were drawing up plans Friday to rescue some 400 people trapped in a snow-blocked mountain tunnel in Kashmir as the death toll topped 200 in the frozen Indian state, officials said.

Army engineers ruled out an early rescue of the travellers stranded in the two-kilometre Jawahar Tunnel near the town of Banihal saying a heavy snowstorm in the northern state was hampering their efforts.

The engineers were trying to establish a communications link with the un-lit icy. tunnel some 200 kilometres north of Jammu to coordinate rescue attempts, military officers told AFP here.

"It is their only hope," one officer said of the estimated

tunnel located on the main highway between Jammu, the Kashmir winter capital, and Srinagar, the state summer

Several thousand people have been stranded inside their vehicles in sub-zero temperatures on the 300kilometre Jammu-Srinagar Highway, served by avalanehes and snowstorms, according to government officials

Military helicopters continued Friday to drop food, medicine, hlankets, tea, powdered milk and kerosene to travellers on the highway. some of whom have been stranded for up to four days inside their vehicles.

Indian soldiers have rescued some 5,000 people 400 people trapped inside the across the state during the past two days, a government spokesman said.

B.R. Kundal, chief administrator of Jammu, said rescures managed to evacuate 400 passengers from 24 buses during the past 24 hours in a stepped-up operation to save lives in the Himalayan state.

A search was ordered Friday for more than 40 hus passengers believed to be stranded near a deserted army post along the Jammu-Srinagar Highway, the only road link between the Kashmir Valley and the rest of the country.

Asked about reports by other government officials that at least 210 people have died, Mr. Kundal said: "The toli could be more, hut I cannot give you exact de-. mobiles to help clear blocked

He said there was confusion regarding the number of easualties because eommunications links have been snapped by the heavy snows.

A Kashmir government official in Srinagar said earlier that 146 bodies had been recovered since Monday. when the first of a series of avalanches flamened a wireless starion near Banihal killing 11 policemen and three

He said another 50 bodies had been sported near the

The state administration has set up a control rooms in use huildozers and snowhighways and roads.

### Gingrich Democrats are trying to destroy me -

WASHINGTON (R) - Republican Speaker Newt Gingrich accused Democrats of plotting his destruction as the U.S. House of Representatives dissolved into partisan sboutiog matches for a second straight day. A brief attempt at biparti-

san coogressional barmooy blew away on gusts of angry rhetoric as Democrats accustomed to rule but oow in the minority thanks to the November elections - accused Republicans of smothering criticism of Mr. Ginerich over lucrative book deal they find unseemly.

The pugnacious Gingrich, a seasoned political brawlet and the first Republican House speaker in 40 years, dismissed the howling as Democratic chafing over minority status and the book furore as part of reveoge

strategy.
"There is a small group of people so bitter about losing control of the House that they have decided that any device which destroys me is

legitimate," he said. Mr. Gingrich said that was

nathetic conservative columnist, Robert Novak, who is among those suggesting Mr. Gingrich might be wise to give up the book contract and thus undercut his critics and defuse the whole issue.

But the speaker dug in -"I am goiog to write a book, I think I have a right to write a book," he said — and added: "I think a strategy based on the personal destruction

of somebody is pretty amazing... pretty soberiog.' Democrats make no secret of their dislike of Mr. Gingrich, who helped Republicans gain control of the House by attacking Democrats on ethical grounds. He helped force the resignation of Democratic Speaker Jim Wright in 1989 over Mr. Wright's own book deal, and

portrayed the Democratic-

led House as corrupt.

Mr. Novak, a syndicated columnist well connected in Republican circles, wrote that some Republicans are also upset about the book contract between Mr. Gingrich and a publishing house owned by Australian media magnate Rupert Murdoch.

Gingrich recently announced he would forego a \$4.5 million advance for the twobook deal and take instead only a \$I advance plus royalties on sales - still potentially worth plenty if the books become best-sellers.

Holding up a \$1 bill for the cameras Thursday to underscote that point, he defended the deal and a recently disclosed private meeting he had with Mr. Murdoch weeks hefore the contract was sealed. Crities have seized upon the meeting as an impropriety because Mr. Murdoch's ownership of the Fox Television channel is being challenged before federal regulators.

Mr. Gingrich said he and Mr. Murdoch did not discuss legislation and asserted that, if be gave up the book contract, foes would just find other grounds for attack.

At a separate news conference, Republican Party Chairman Haley Barbour accused the White House of orchestrating a campaign of character assassination against Mr. Gingrich.

"Perhaps you think this strategy, which is an obvious strategy, is being done withSrinagar and Jammu to coordinate rescue operations and asked military engineers to

knowledge or direction," Mr. Barbour said. "You may be right but I doubt it. I was born at night but it wasn't last

The whole row again spilled over onto the House floor where, on Wednesday, Republicans forced through a reprimand...of a Democratic member who had criticised Mr. Gingrich for the book deal and got some of het remarks strickeo from the re-

Democrats angrily accused House rules they had pushed through just weeks ago dcsigned to limit changes in the record, and of seeking to quash criticism.

"I hope the rules do not gag members of Congress," said minority leader Riebard Gephardt of Missouri. "1 hope we're not going to abuse the power of running the House.

The wrangling was a reverse image of biner days in the mid-1950s when con-servative Republicans, led by Gingrich, accused the thenmajority Democrats of cutting off dehate and imposing tight rules to shut off dissent.

### |Hope fades | Mexico police break up protest with tear-gas for quick

#### release of VILLAHERMOSA, Mexico (R) — Police firing tear-gas Thursday broke up a clash Burma's between supporters of Mexico's ruling party and leftist opposition protesters in the central square of Villahermo-Suu Kyi sa, the capitla of southeastern Tabasco state, the govern-

BANGKOK (R) - Hopes for the imminent release of Burma's dissident leader Aung San Suu Kyi faded as the Rangoon junta said she would be freed only when a constitution now being written is complete.

Rangoon-based diplomats said Friday it could take three years before the drawn-out constitutional process reaches a conclusion, but pointed out that under the regime's own laws Mrs. Suu Kyi's sentence expires in

July.
Thai Foreign Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said Thursday upon his return from Rangoon that he had asked Burma's ruling generals about the detained democracy leader and had been told the constitutional convention must finish its work

"They will not release her until the constitution is complete." Mr. Thaksin told re-

That convention, which has been drawing up the basic guidelines of a new charter under the junta's wing since January 1993, has so far completed only three of the 15 sections the constitution is to consist of.

One Rangoon-hased diplomat said it was not clear what the junta meant when it said the constitution must be completed before the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize laureate is released.

"Is it going to be when the guidelines are finished, or when the constitution is written, or promulgated, or after the first election under a new constitution and a parliament is sitting," be said. "That could be three years down the line.'

Junta Chairman General Than Shwe and the powerful head of Burma's military intelligence. Lieutenant-General Khin Nyunt, met Mrs. Suu Kyi for the first time last September.

The 49-year-old daughter of Burmese independence hero Aung San had a second meeting with Gen. Khin Nyunt in October, fuelling speculation her release might be imminent.

er fuelled by mixed signals coming from the secretiive junta - the State Law and Otdet Restoration (SLORC), another diplomat

"Some of them were saying they didn't want to hold het beyond January and people seized on those dates but it was never a fixed deadline," he said.

Mrs. Suu Kyi was first detained under house arrest in July 1989, on vague charges of endangering the state. Under the military govern-

ment's own law a period of bouse arrest can last a mayimum of five years. But a senior junta official said last year her first year of detention was an "arrest period" and her period of detention

began only in July 1990. There was never any doubt that the deadline was July this year," one of the diplomats said.

But one Bangkok-based diplomat said the SLORC might detain her indefinitely. They've dropped hints recently that they feel they can keep her as long as they want." he said.

"The political considerations will be more important than the legal," said another. Mrs. Suu Kyi emerged as a

charismatic leader of a prodemocracy uprising that swept Burma in 1988 and was only put down by the military with the deaths of hundreds. perhaps thousands, of peo-

The National League for Democracy which Mrs. Suu Kyi co-founded swept more than 80 per cent of the sears in May 1990 elections, but the SLORC ignored the results, claiming a new con-stitution had to be drawn up before any transfer of power to a civilian government

could occur. Mrs. Suu Kyi, who has refused the SLORC's offer to set her free if she leaves Burma, won the Nobel Prize for her non-violent campaign

Meanwhile BBC Television reported that Burma's military government is fotcing tens of thousands of people to labour without pay on tourism projects, turning the country into a vast slave

step down. Mr. Madrazo was elected voting fraud. The protests were the first

ment news agency said. Several people were hurt by stones thrown during the clasb which began when supporters of Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) Governor Roberto Madrazo appeared at an opposition protest against him.

Protesters and several reby Mr. Zedillo and the main porters at the scene suffered from tear-gas inhalation, the Mexican news agency (Nonmex) said. Other unconfirmed reports said PRI supporters may have thrown some of the tear-gas grenades which eleared the square. Earlier, angry PRI suppor-

ters blocked roadways and closed businesses in Villahermosa to protest government plans for new elections in the state, saying they believe the government of President Ernesto Zedillo is

Treatment of asylum

trying to make Mr. Madrazo

last November but his victory was marred by charges by the leftist opposition Democratie Revolution Party (PRD) of

test by Mr. Zedillo's pledge this week to reach a comprehensive deal with all Mexico's main political parties to overhaul the electoral system and put an end to constant suspicions of fraud in favour of the As part of that deal signed

political parties Tuesday officials had said the government is willing to hold new elec-rions in Tahasco and the nearby state of Chiapas where Maya Indian rebels are demanding Governor Eduar-do Rohledo also step down. The new polls would likely

take place after the existing election system had been thoroughly overhauled in the coming months to increase confidence in its independence from the ruling party.

only in immigration deten-

tion centres hut also in pris-

The report said some Brit-

ish regulations such as the

"primary purpose rule" have

led to families being kept

apart and women being

forced to choose between a

violent home and deporta-

Under that rule, in a mar-

riage between a national from outside the European

Union and a British citizeo.

ons," it said.

#### ROME (R) - The giants of film bonoured late Italian director Federico Fellini,

launching a week of 75th anniversary tributes to a man whose work changed the face of cinema. Scores of directors, actors and cinema lovers flocked to a three-day conference in honour of the fivetimes Oscar winner and creator of some of 30 films including such classics as "La Strada" (1954), "La-Dolce Vita" (1960). Fellini died on Oct. 31, 1993. He would have been 75 on Friday, when a major exhibition of his work opened in Rome before moving on to Germaoy, the United States, Britain and Japan. "I find it hard to believe there won't be any more Fellini films. Without his magnificent presence the world seems a little smaller, a little greyer," Hollywood director Martin Scorsese said in a videotape address to the conference. "Fortunately we still have his films and that will be his gift to us," said Scorsese. Actor Anthony Quinn, who played the circus strongman Zampano in Fellini's first Oscar-winner "La Strada," was a star speaker at the conference. "I loved Fel-lini's sense of fantasy. He told me I should never tell the truth. 'Everyone knows the truth. Tell them something they don't know, tell them your mother's a princess and your father's a giant. It's far more interesting," he once said to me," recounted the silver-haired Ouino.

#### Twins born 95 days apart

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana (AFP) — A New Orleans woman has given birth to twins 95 days apart and in different years, setting a record for the longest period in which babies in a multiple pregnancy survived. Timothy Keys was born 15 weeks premature on Oct. 15, but doctors were able to keep Celeste io her mother's womb until full term and she was born Wednesday. Doctor Jay Goldsmith, one of the mother's doctors at Ochsner Foondation Hospital, said the twins would probably joke about the age difference. ten years from now. Timothy was born in 1994 and Celeste io 1995. A Canadian woman pregnant with triplets bad a Caesarean delivery 99 days after the first child was born but only the third baby sur-

### Japanese climb Himalayan peak:

KATMANDU (AP) - Two Japanese climbers bave scaled the Himalayan peak of Mount Amadablam, the Tourism Ministry said Thursday. Yashuhiro Takiguchi, 38, and Mitsuru Kimura, 29, both from Yamagata city reached the summit of the 6812-metre (22,480 ft.) high mountaion Saturday, the ministry said in a statement. The climbers from the fivemember Katmandu Club Amadablam Expedition 1994-95, spent 30 minutes on the summit, the statement

### Star signs are all wrong, say astronomers

LONDON (AFP) - Forget ahout reading your horo-scope to determine your future, you're almost certainly looking under the wroog star sign, according to Britain's Royal Astronomical Society The Daily Telegraph Friday quoted society member Jac-queline Mitton as saying that instead of 12 constellations supposedly regulating our lives, the Zodiac actually has 13, creating a knock-on effect that shifts all the dates. The interloper, igoored by astrologers hut covering people born between Nov. 30 and Dec. 17 who think they are Sagittarians, is Ophiuchus, a Latin version of the Greek god of medicine Asclepius, Ms. Mitton said.

TOKYO (AFP) — American singer Billy Joel has donated part of the money he made

### Film world honours Fellini

neat

A new discovernes (Al

: Alliance Capital Man-Fidelity and Merrill in February fund and Escurity Security Ltd. Hade (Al Asway).

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Gwi Aviation Autunently making lacts with South Philippines and with the aim of air transport those coun-

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### Under public pressure, Mr. Japan quake sends parties dancing for votes

TOKYO (Agencies) — The Kobe earthquake has sent Japan's political parties to the streets to raise funds for victims, but the move has met with skepticism and is seen more as a publicity stunt ahead of national elections

The newly established hig opposition party. Shinshinto (New Frontier Party), com-plained that its relief drive was not getting the same amount of media attention as the limelight surrounding the ruling coalition.

"I have the impression that media coverage of out party has been too scanty." Toru Tetai, a public telations official with Shinshinto said. "We wish the media would teport fairly about how we are dealing with the matter." Leaders from different

political parties led the launch of fund-raising campaigns Thursday, but some newspapers called it a "performance" to gain popularity ahead of local elections in April and Senate polls in

marriage of covenience in Shinshinto President

Toshiki Kaifu, a former

prime minister and LDP de-

fector, toured Kobe Wednes-

day, the day after it was

reduced to rubole by the

quake. But the trip was not given much space in the

leaders had assessed the catastrophe "with their own eyes" and made specific sugacted swiftly." he said.

TUINS.

devastation, politicians are leers of proceeding with what voters would view as selfish manoeuvring at a stunned nation's expense.

followed Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama when he visited the quake-hit area Thursday amid criticism that his government was working too slowly in rescue opera-Mr. Terai said that party

gestions to the government about relief measures. "I wonder if the government has Meanwhile, members of Prime Ministet Tomiichi Murayama's squabbling Socialist Party are burying

Tuesday's huge earthquake. But analysts say the truce will at best just postpone party headaches.

4,000 dead. Survivors Friday were still struggling with food and water shortages. Much of the infrastructure in the hardhit port city of Kobe was in Faced with the misery and

set up a separate parliamen-

emphasis is on gening money into the district. Before the quake struck Tuesday, some Liberal Democrats had been muttering that a snap election in April might be their best bet. nouse elections in July in

"Both the party's Central

ourselves believe that what we need to do now is pull together as a party and focus on disaster relief and reconstruction measures," an aide to Mr. Yamahana told Reu-"We don't know how long

(LDP) need to work

Another two are from neighbouring Osaka, analysts said. The last thing they would

Others were eveing lower tandem with scheduled upper

"Some politicians were

talking about lower house

elections in April when nation-wide local elections are scheduled and others about rwinning the general election with the upper house election. Now they are saying the election should be put off," said Rikkyo University politicai scientisi Muneyuki

Mr. Yamahana's rebels

The Socialists, who recanted most of their traditional platform when they ioined forces with the LDP. are scrambling for ways to appeal to voters alienated from both the LDP and the

Analysis said the earthquake's pointigal failout would also make it hard for the NFP to attack the ruling cognition in ways that would delay quake relief or destabilise the 20 ernment. politician said talk of "a poli-

for democracy.

#### LONDON (AP) - A teport formed of the reason for their Friday said Britain's treatdetention, nor given an automatie right to ehallenge it ers, refugees and migrants is before a court of law." "Detainees are held not

seekers in U.K. condemned

ment of political ayslum seekappalling and accused the government of overall lack of concern for their rights. The report published by

the human rights group Liberty Echo points in a report in October by Amnesty International which said Britain's practice of locking up large numbers of asylum seekers indefinitely without access to courts violates inter-

Friday's Liberty report, published with the backing of the Jmint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, said that an average of 1,500 people were detained under British

deportation powers each year between 1989 and 1994. The report, "the last resort: violations of the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers," said: Detention of asylum seekers is often arbitrary and de-

the onus is on the couple to show that the marriage is not principally to enable the foreign partner to obtain entry to Applications from asylum

seekers wanting to live in Britain are growing. In March 1993, the number waiting for a decision by British officials was 42,170. By

last September, it was 52,760. tainees are not always in-Fight begins to save

smaller EU languages STRASBOURG, France (R) - The hattle to maintain the European Union's (EU) linguistic web began in earnest this week when members of the European Parliament attacked a French plan to reduce the number of EU

working languages to five from 11. As Euro-MPs from Austria. Finland and Sweden joined the Strasbourg-based assembly for the first time since the bloc was expanded to 15 from 12 countries on Jan. 1, France sought to play down earlier suggestions that the EU's daily work should he confined to English. French, German, Spanish

and Italian. "France has not made and will not make such a proposal during its (current six-month stint in the EU) presidency. French European Affairs Minister Alain Lamassoure

said in a letter. But Euro-MPs from countries with lesser-known languages are taking the threat seriously, fearing the idea could re-emerge in a sche-duled 1996 intergovernmen-tal review of the EU's work-

Greek singer and Euro-MP

Nana Mouskouri, who sings

and speaks six languages fluently, took the maner up personally with French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe. 'She expressed the hope that Mr. Juppe would support the maintenance of alt the languages of the member states... which is something indispensable for the unity of Europe," a statement quoted Ms. Mouskouri, who became

a deputy in July, as saving, Her colleague. Georgios Anastassopoulos, in the Greek European People's Party, agreed. "I would find it very difficult to tell Greeks that they

have no right to speak the

language of Socrates," he

"We can not ask our electors to only elect people who have French and English." he told parliament. Lis Jensen, a Euro-MP for Denmark's People's Movement Against the European Union, said that if Danish

was removed from the EU's

"no" in a planned referendum on strengthening the EU in 1996. "I'm sure. I'm quite sure

that we would vote 'no' with

a much bigger percentage than before. They can not phase the Danish language out. The Swedes will follow us, I'm sure." "I think it's a catastrophe for the Danish people. Even in Danish it's very difficult to understand the Maastricht

Treaty. In the case of English it will be quite impossible for us to do it," she told Reuters. Danes threw the bloc into crisis in 1992 when they initially rejected in a referendum the Maastricht Treaty laying down the path to EU economie, political and

Wilfried Martens, now a Euro-MP and who over a decade as prime minister in linguistically divided Belgium saw more than his fair share of language-hased troubles. said the move would turn a sceptical public opinion even more against the union. "It's a very dangerous pro-

cess. Those who are against

integration will use this prop-

osal to damage European in-

monetary union.

tegration... in the view of a lot of people in Europe it will even deepen the psychological gulf." Mr. Martens told Reuters. As France prepared last month for its stint as EU president. Mr. Lamassoure. the country's European affairs minister, said the EU's

system of working languages would have to be reviewed as the EU expanded. The expansion of the EU 10 15 members on Jan. I added Swedish and Finnish to the EU's language list, making it 11.

Mr. Lamassoure said the enlargement could result in 110 language translation combinations requiring an army of interpreters. It could be hard to find people capable of cross interpretation between languages such as Greek and Finnish, he added.

He said the problem would

become even more acute

once the union expanded

eastwards when Czech. Pol-

ish, Slovenian, Bulgarian and

Billy Joel donates to **Red Cross** 

from two concerts in Osaka to victims of the massive carthquake in Kobe and neighbouring areas, the Japanese Red Cross Society said Friday. Joel. 45, requested the Red Cross not to reveal the amount he donated. Joel was staying at a hotel in Osaka with his staff when the earthquake struck Tuesday moruing and had to come down the entergency stairs from his room on the 20th floor,

husiness

A review conomic news de Arabic press ing firms face new

. lenges Dar Al Dawa phar and industry, said the - many with Israel was monat challenge to the on pharmaceutical inis the Israeli drug strong and de and thus competi-He mentioned the TITHA company moduces medical prowillion a ad has its markets in ) and many European Mr. Jardaneh also in under the GATT 3005. which require perence to intellectual ments including the distention, Jordanian posities will negative. steeted as far as their In to introduce new men the future. Such am he explained neas starting scientific st mmediately to ar-

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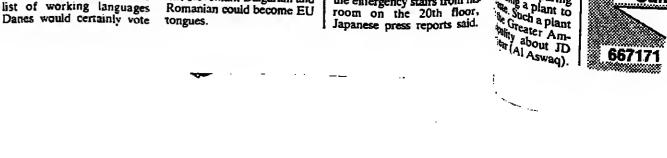
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i million (Al Ra'i). Abbadi said in a Society of In-Housing Sector highest demand for the said, there are (00) empty housing average, and high.

per cent increase 1993 figure (Al

the Social Securhation rose to year from end of 1993. of those still of 361,000, of were Jorda-



the main point underlying a newspaper article by a sym-

Shinshinto was formed last month by conservative and centrist groups against the ruling coalition, which joined the conservative Liberal Democrat Party (LDP) and the Socialists in a political

In contrast, a media circus

the harchet for now and pressures for an early election are receding as Japan reels from the tragedy of

The mammoth quake, the worst to strike Japan in more than 70 years, has left over

A tebel hand in Prime Minister Murayama's Social-

ist Party has ftozen plans to

tary group, a move many see as a prelude to a party split. Executive Committee and we

the situation will last, but there are important issues to be dealt with, such as passing a supplementary budget for earthquake-related funds. So at teast until that is done. both the Socialists and the Liheral Democratic Party

Five of Mr. Yamahana's group of 24 potential defectors are from Kobe's home prefecture of Hvogo. want now is to destabilise the government, said John Neuffer, a senior research fellow at the Mitsui Marine Research Institute. "The

had threatened to bolt from the party if Mr. Murayama's mainstream backers remained opposed to their demand for an early transformation of the Socialists into a distinct party with a better chance of survival in coming elections.

conservative opposition in the New Frontier Party

But an aide to one NFP tical truce" was exaggerated. Some people say there should be a truce because of the earthquake, but that is not parliament's role," the aide told Reuters. "There are issues to be discussed including delays in the government's response to the

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outside the city. The snow and mud of winter will favour the Chechens, who know the Western military analysts terrain.

heavy weapons, they seem to have plentiful supplies of small arms and rocketpropelled grenades needed for guerrilla warfare. Theirs is a clan-based society where guns and blood fends have long been a way of life.

One Western official in Moscow said earlier this week he believed 15,000 to 20,000 rebels could operate from hases in sonthern Chechenya. The northern part is under Russia control.

The mainly Muslim region which declared independence in 1991 already has a long history of conflict with Mos-

Mr. Yeltsin, clearly suggesting Russia would make an attempt to win hearts and minds, said Thursday he now wanted to rehnild Chechenya, reestablish law and order and return life to normal, including full respect for human rights.

ed, followed by a spiral of reprisals and more attacks that form a familiar pattern in what the military calls "lowintensity conflict.

Russians fought and eventually lost after 10 years in Afghanistan, a war that would sap the already low morale of Moscow's armed forces and require more cash from state coffers that is hadly needed elsewhere.

seems to be preparing for the



Russian soldiers warm up around a fire as they wait for instructions to storm Grozny, the capital of Chechenya (AFP photo)

worst even as it holds out an will bomb you," it read.

olive branch. Interfax News Agency quoted a senior Russian army general Thursday as saying hoses would now be established outside Grozny to prevent a guerrilla war, with Interior Ministry troops taking over to restore order in the city. Russia's human rights com-

missioner, Sergei Kovalyov, returned from Chechenya Thursday displaying to reporters a leaflet dropped hy heliconters on villages in

fired on from your area, we only way.

The Chechenya campaign is Moscow's higgest military action since the Soviet Union sent troops into Afghanistan in 1979.

But there are also echoes of an older conflict, when proud Chechens fought the tsarist armies in the 19th century. In the end, Russian troops burned villages and destroyed crops in an effort to quell resistance.

This time around, the Russians may face the same choice," said RUSI's Foster. Chechenya. "They may find that a 'scor-ched earth' policy may be the

### cause once you start separat-Balladur will not

dissolve parliament if he wins

elections PARIS (AP) - Premier Edouard Balladur has said he would nor dissolve the

National Assembly should he win spring presidential elec-A day after announcing his candidacy for president, the conservative premier, the favourite among all candidates, also said he would not

fere with his joh of gov-"I have the intention of governing until the end," he told French radio. "France is

allow the campaign to inter-

not going to stop for four months during the presidential campaign. He said he would set out his platform next month, sometime between Feh. 15-

20. That would give voters just over two months to get acquainted with Mr. Balladur's campaign programme. The two-round elections are scheduled for April 23

and May 7. The second round vote is held if no candidate gets a majority in the first round. Mr. Balladur said he has "no intention" of dissolving

the National Assembly should he win. "I see neither the necessity nor the justification." he

The right holds a wide majority in the 577-seat assembly since trouncing

Socialists in March 1993 legislative elections. Defeated and divided, the Socialists are flailing about

nated on Feb. 5. Three bids have been made. The premier's announcement Wednesday that he was officially in the race came as

for a candidate, to he desig-

no surprise but set the stage for serious campaigning.

Mr. Balladur's chief rival. fellow conservative Jacques

Chirac, the mayor of Paris. declared his candidacy on Nov. 4, but his campaign has been largely overshadowed by suspense over Mr. Balla-

Mr. Chirac's camp sees Mr. Balladur's candidacy as a betrayal. Both men hail from the same Rally For the Republic Party, which Mr. Chirac led until stepping down recently to devote himself to his presidential campaign.

He offered the premiership to Mr. Balladur so he could prepare for his presidential

Mr. Chirac's campaign spokesman, François Baroin, said Thursday that the pact has now become a "detail in history." Meanwhile, the premier's

office announced that Deputy Health Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy would become the new government spokesman, replacing Nicolas Sarkozy who has been named spokesman for Mr. Balladur's campaign.

Mr. Chirac called Wednesday for a "real dehate" with Mr. Bailadur, in his first public comments since the French premier confirmed he is running for France's top

Mr. Chirac said he wanted to point up the differences hetween the two men's approach, stressing his own ciormist agenda while saving Mr. Balladur wanted to continue in the same vein.

# Rose: Bosnia truce unstable

faltering new ceasefire in Bosnia could fall apart without a revival of international peace negotiations, outgoing U.N. commander Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose said.

"You can't do peacekeeping in a political vacuum. Gen. Rose, who leaves Bosnia on Jan. 24 after a turhulent year-long assignment, told reporters.

Gen. Rose said the U.N. Protection Force was concerned at a loss of momentum in having Serb and Muslim warring parties implement confidence-building steps crucial to the survival of the four-month "cessation of hostilities "

rapidly as we hoped," the British officer said. "What people are waiting for is a sign of political movement. particularly by the Bosnian Serbs, before committing to implementation procedures.

Things are not going as

"The Bosnian government feels there's no point having this if there's not going to be any political movement, be-

SARAJEVO (R) - The ing forces (hy inserting peacekeepers) you face the danger of freezing front

> Gen. Rose said the government was worried about creating a situation like that in Cyprus where a U.N. truce line has become a permanent partition hetween Greeks and a Turkish occupation

He described the Bosnian government's reluctance to follow through on the most pivotal plank of the ceasefire placing U.N. soldiers between combatants - as "very leginmate and understand-

force since 1974.

er "contact group" plan dividing Bosnia roughly in half between its Muslim-led government and the Bosnian Serbs have been on ice for six months. Bosnia's Muslims and

Negotiations on a big pow-

allied Croats grudgingly accepted their 51 per cent share and refuse to renegoti-Serbs, who hold 70 per

cent of Bosnia and have expelled most Muslims and Croats from territory under their control, at first rejected the map, then indicated they could accept it as raw material for new talks - but only with the prospect of ohtaining more land.

A ftesh swing hy contact group mediators through Bosnia last week failed to bridge the chasm between the parties and U.N. efforts to stabilise the ceasefire have become bogged down by had

faith and instransigence. Heavy shelling was re-ported in the Bihac enclave of northwestern Bosnia Friday as the United Nations struggled to consolidate the latest ceasefire.

The fighting was concentrated near the town of Velika Kladusa, in the north of the enclave, where rebal Muslims are clashing with forces loyal to the Muslim-led Bosnian government, U.N. spokesman Major Herve

Gourmelon said. He said that 798 explosions had been recorded in the past 24 hours, a more than sevenfold increase in the usual daily count since the ceasefire began on Jan. 1.

The situation in the Bihac

enclave is complicated by the fact that while the Bosnian government forces have signed the ceasefire, the Muslim rebels and their Serh

hackers from Croatia have Maj. Gourmelon also reported scattered firing incidents elsewhere in Bosnia. citing 14 desonations in the Kalesija and Doboj areas in

the northeast. In Sarajevo, U.N. mediators pressed ahead with efforts to implement the terms of the four-month ceasefire agreement.

Bosnia government negotiator Hasan Muratovic and a senior Bosnian Serbs leader, Momcilo Krajisnik were meeting at the U.N. controlled Sarajevo Airport to make another attempt at reaching agreement on reopening civi-

lian roads into the city. The United Nations received offers Thursday of several thousand additional troops, hundreds of armoured personnel carriers and more than 30 helicopters for service with the U.N. force in Posnia, diplomais

### U.S. senators attack Korea deal publican of Arizona, said

WASHINGTON (R) - U.S. Senate Republicans have harshly criticised the deal freezing North Korea's nuclear programme but said Congress should not renege and may be pushed into approving funds for it.

They said at a Senate hearing that President Bill Clinton promised North Korea in a secret letter that he would try to finance the \$4 billion cost of two power reactors for Pyongyang under the deal if South Korea and Japan do not. They also said there is no assurance North Korea will keep its word and halt nuclear weapons development.

But Senator Frank Murkowski of Alaska, chaining a Senate Energy Committee hearing on the deal, said that even though it has been described as nuclear blackmail, "I do not believe that we should renege on this agree-

ment. Senator John McCain, Re-

North Korea has a long history of breaking its word and there is no assurance it will not resume building nuclear weapons after receiving the reactors and oil from U.S.led allies. But Sen. McCain said Con-

gress should approve \$10 million the Clinton administration requested Wednesday night for safe storage of 8,000 fuel rods North Korea has agreed to give up — and said it would be hard to defeat other funding. What the administration

has done is put us into a box that is very difficult for us to get out of," he said, "Because if we refuse now to fund portions of this agreement then of course we can be held responsible for the whole thing coming apart."

South Korea is responsible for financing the \$4 billion power reactor for North

Korea and Japan has pledged a significant financial contribution, but has not said how much. But Sen. McCain said Mr.

Clinton promised Pyongyang in a secret letter on Oct. 20 that he will try to arrange financing of the reactors if allies do not pay for them.

Gary Samore, a U.S. negotiator of the agreement, confirmed at the hearing that the agreement provides that il South Korea and Japan do not supply the reactors. then the president will use the full powers of his office to seek to ensure that the U.S. makes arrangements for this project to be provided, subject to the approval of Con-

But Mr. Samore said the allies have pledged financing for the reactors, and the agreement should cost the tini'ad States no more than النب 00 million over 10 years.

### Bangladesh opposition calls for strikes

DHAKA (AP) - Opposi- day. Letters have been sent tion parties demanding fresh to 147 lawmakers who quit elections called for another round of strikes next week to intensity their antigovernment movement.

All day, thousands of opposition activists blocked hways, railroads and ferrym terminals across the country to force Prime Minister Khaleda Zia to accept

their demands. At separate rallies in the evening, the opposition par-

and Wednesday.

ties asked their supporters to enforce the strike Tuesday

President Abdur Rahman

the parliament to meet Mon-

Biswas Thursday summoned

the house last month to intensify their campaign against Mrs. Zia. The resignation letters have not yet been accepted

by the speaker. On Thursday, the government deployed nearly 1,500. police and paramilitary troops to protect the trains. No confrontation was re-

At least 13 passenger trains got stranded on the railroad tracks nationwide, officials at Dhaka's railway control

room said. Opposition acrivists also

tion leader Antonio Guterres

urged Prime Minister Anibal

als disrupting movements of . ferries. For 10 months the opposition parties have hoveotted

parliament accusing Mrs. Zia's government of corruption and incompetence. In another development nigh court we asked the opposition law-

makers who resigned to explain in next one week why their resignation should not be declared illegal. Mrs. Zia still controls the

majority in the 330-house parliament. But she has not yet order hy-election to re-

place the opposition lawmak-

### demonstrated at river termin-

Lisbon broke Indonesia arms embargo LISBON (R) — Ponugal's government faced fresh embarrassment Friday from a press report that it flouted its own arms embargo against Indonesia and the opposition called on Defence Minister

Fernando Nogueira to quit. The government said it was investigating a report hy the right-wing weekly Indepen-dente that a Defence Ministry company, the General Office of Aeronautical Equipment (OGMA), serviced the engines of at least

two Indonesian military helicopters. Lisbon severed all ties with Jakarta after Indonesia invaded the former Portuguese colooy of East Timor in 1975

and annexed the territory a The Defence Ministry said

it had launched an urgent

inquiry and Socialist opposi-

Cavaco Silve to sack Mr. Nogueira. The latest emharrassment for OGMA comes two

months after Independent revealed the firm had violated Portugal's official neutrality in the Angolan civil war by servicing Russian-built warplanes for the Angolan government air force.

Mr. Cavaco Silva refused an offer by Mr. Nogueira to resign on that occasion, but he head of OGMA resigned andn President Mario soares vetoed the reappointment of air force chief Narciso Mendes Dias for a further

Independent said OGMA had confirmed that it serviced the engines of at least two Indonesian military helicopters for 20 billion escudos

(\$125,000) in 1993 as part of work sub-contracted from engine manufacturers turbomeca in France. But OGMA issued a state-

ment saying it had not heen aware of who hte helicopter engines belonged to at the time. '(OGMA) received two Turmo engines on April 6. 1993 whose commercial documentation sent hy Tur-

bomeca contained no refer-

ence to the user (Indonesian Armed Forces)," it said.
The reported servicing of Indonesian military helicopter engines occurred just 18 months after a massacre of up to 180 pro-independence

activisis by Indonesian troops Mr. Guterres urged Mr. Cavaco Silva Friday to sack his defence minister "To save the cause of Timoir and Por-

tuguese diplomacy."

### U.S., Cuba wrap up immigration talks

NEW YORK (AFP) - U.S. and Cuban officials wrapped up their latest round of talks on implementing an agree-ment that will allow 20,000 Cuhans to enter the United States and both sides said they were happy with the

Dennis Hays, the State Department coordinator for Cuban affairs who headed the U.S. delegation, said the closed-door talks here Wednesday and Thursday had been "frank and constructive."

"We are making good progress and we are satisfied with the general results," he

Issues discussed at the talks included a U.S. request to boost its staff in Havana by around 10 people in order to handle the flood of Cubans seeking U.S. visas, said a U.S. official

The U.S. interest section in Havana, he said, has been swamped with more than 180,000 visa requests from Cubans seeking to emigrate to the United States.

The U.S. delegation also sought explanations for the sharp increase in the fees Cuba charges those eligible to emigrate — from \$100 in November to \$990, the official added.

The United States agreed on Sept. 9 to grant immigration visas to at least 20,000 Cubans per year after some 32,000 Cuhans attempted to flee the Communist island aboard rafts and makeshift

The migration wave was the biggest since the 1980 Mariel boatlift and prompted President Bill Clinton to drophis policy of granting almost immediate entry to Cuban refugees.

Cuban President Fidel Castro ordered the Coast Guard patrol to enforce border controls again after Washington agreed to enter into talks on the immigration problem.

Edgardo Valdes, the spokesman for the Cuban mission to the United Nations, said the talks had been satisfactory and both sides were clearly committed to pushing abead with the

agreement. In Cuha, Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said he was sure the two countries could iron out any remaining differences on the immigration question.

"Both countries have shown that they are capable Havana.

of handling difficulties and sensitive questions in a constructive way," said Mr. Evans, who was visiting

# Russia likely to face fresh battles in Chechenya

MOSCOW (R) - The battle will be of less use in fighting for Grozny may soon be over but it seems the battle for Chechenya has barely begun.

Presidential Palace in Grozny

Thursday and President Boris

Yeltsin declared the military

operation virtually at an end.

vowed to continue the fight

- raising the prospect of a

Sergei Stankevich, a for-

mer adviser to Mr. Yeltsin.

told British Television Thurs-

day: "It's not the final act of

leader Dzhokhar Dudayev

and rebel fighters have also

signalled the battle will go

swamp Chechenya with

troops to pacify it and they've

already shown they don't

deal very well with counter-

insurgency," said defence

analyst Edward Foster of the

Royal United Services Insti-

donbt they would 'take'

Grozny in a conventional

military sense. The real battle

need no more than a few days

to pound Grozny into sub-

mission with superior fire-

But its troops, many of them ill-prepared conscripts

hefore more experienced

forces moved in, were stun-ned by the ferocity of

Chechen resistance. In three

weeks of vicious street fight-

ing, they have suffered heavy

The problem for Russia

now is that tanks and artillery

KIGALI (R) - Eighteen

Rwandans were killed by un-

identified attackers on a re-

mote northwestern island on

Lake Kivu bordering on east-

ern Zaire, a U.N. spokesman

U.N. military spokesman

Captain Stephane Grenier

said U.N. military observers

had arrived on Nyamirundi Island on Lake Kivu Thurs-

day to investigate the killings

which occurred last Saturday.

li that the observers had not

yet discovered the identity of

He said in the capital Kiga-

Troops and militiamen

loyal to Rwanda's exiled for-

mer government have raided

villages on the shores of Lake

Kivu in recent months but

have concentrated on the

some 100 kilometres to the

last Tnesday that Rwandan

troops had shot and killed

one of 20 gunmen wearing uniforms of the ousted Rwan-

dan army attacking a south-

western village last Saturday.

The gunmen fled to the

island of Ijwi, a base just inside Zaire for raids by ex-

COLOMBO (R) — A weary Pope John Paul, saying he had only peace in his heart, arrived in mainly Buddhist

and war-weary Sri Lanka Fri-

day and at once tried to make

ameods with Buddhists who

accuse him of insulting their

As he began the last leg of

his four-nation tour of Asia

and the Pacific, the frail,

74-year-old Pontiff urged an

end to the country's 12-year

ethnic war, which has cost

Obviously exhausted after

10 hours airborne from Syd-

ney, the Pope gripped a hand

rail with his left hand as be

slowly descended the steps of

"I come as a friend from

Rome...," the Pope said in a

halting speech at a colourful

arrival ceremony at the office

of President Chandrika Ban-

daranaike Knmaratunga at

the start of his 24-hour visit to

the island off the coast of

goodwill, with nothing but

peace in my heart," he said.

The Pontiff, oppressed by the

intense Colombo heat, re-

mained seated while Mrs.

Despite his hip-

replacement surgery last

year, he has shrugged off

concerns about his health.

However, he has clearly

shown signs of exhaustion on

this tour, which has already

taken him to the Philippines.

Papua New Guinea and Au-

Kumaratunga spoke.

"I come as a pilgrim of

his Quantas aircraft on arriv-

al at Colombo's airport.

more than 30,000 lives.

Saturday's killings were

The United Nations said

southern half.

north of that area.

said Friday.

Russia believed it would

"There was never any

tate (RUSI) in London.

may now be on."

The Russians will have to

Chechenya's separatist

hit-and-run guerrilla war.

the drama.

But the Chechens have

and diplomats believe Rus-While the Chechens lack sian forces now face a long and vicious war of attrition against well-armed groups of insurgents working from hiding places in Grozny or bases in the hills and mountains. Russian forces took the

The question is whether the Chechens, having seen their capital blasted and civihans killed in their hundreds. will be ready to cooperate. If not, Russian soldiers could find themselves picked off one by one m city streets. Convoys could be ambushed and bases attack-

It is the kind of war the

Nevertheless, Moseow

18 Rwandans killed near border with Zaire iled troops suspected by U.N. officials of mounting an insurgency campaign against the government in Kigali.

and aid cused the former Hntu army of training soldiers in refugee

camps in Zaire.

Tutsis and Hutu allies. Meanwhile two large volcanoes are expected to erupt next month near Goma, Zaire, threatening 800,000

Sadako Ogata, U.N. High

U.N. officials last week said government troops en-

gaged 50 Rwandan soldiers

village of Nyamasheke. The invaders driven off to Ijwi. RPA officers played down the encounter, saying there was a 30-minute exchange of

genocide of up to one million

Rwandan refugees, top United Nations officials said Fri-

Commissioner for Refugees,

and Peter Hansen, U.N.

The spiritual leader of the world's 900 million Roman

Catholics was given an ecsta-

tic welcome by thousands of

smiling Sri Lankans, cheering

and waving national and pap-al flags along the 32-

kilometre drive to Colombo

warm welcome from a non-

Catholic country," a journal-ist from the Vatican press

Pope John Paul made an

unscheduled 10-minute stop

at St. Anthony's Church as

he entered central Colombo.

Police said the stop was be-

cause the Pope was tired and

He also said a prayer at the

church, which was snr-

rounded by hundreds of

Security was tight with

The Pope's first visit to this

island nation was marred

even before it began by a row

with Buddhists over com-

ments about their religion in

the Pontiff's recent book,

Crossing The Threshold Of

Religious leaders of Sri

Lanka's predominantly

Buddhist population have

said the Pope's book insuited

them in passages where he

says some aspects of Buddh-

ism are negative and atheis-

Buddhist leaders, who de-

manded an apology from the

Pope, said they were drop-ping that demand, and in-

stead wanted the written re-

marks withdrawn. They plan

wanted to wash his face.

police lining the ronte.

"It was a tremendously

from the airport.

corps said.

onlookers.

exiled in Zaire in a two-hour home in 1995 under a volunfirefight outside the nearby

fire between handits and an The U.N. force in Rwanda

The exiled troops fled Tutsi-dominated rebels in July at the end of three months of civil war sparked by the killing of President Juvenal Habyarimana and

under-secretary-general for humanitarian affairs, called for funds to move at least 200,000 refugees to new sites. Mrs. Ogata also disclosed her agency planned to help one million Rwandans return

tary programme. Both officials sounded the larm over Nyamuragira and. Nyiragongo volcanoes near Goma, where UNHCR operates six refugee camps holding 800,000 Rwandans. Lava is expected to flow south. towards a sprawling camp at

refugees.

a one-day donors conference in Geneva, said: "I would like to alert you to a potential new threat to the safety of nearly one million persons." "Recent scientific evidence leads us to be concerned ab-

Mugunga, home to 200,000

Mr. Hansen, in a speech to

future," he added. Mr. Hansen said his Department of Humanitarian Affairs (DHA) was taking the volcano threat "very seriously" and was reviewing emergency measures with

to boycott the Pope's meeting with leaders of other faiths

Zairean anthorities.

Saturday.

Lankans

out the potential for significant volcanic activity and major lava flows in the near

preparing a contingency plan which considers the urgent relocation of the popula-The volcanoes are expected to erupt next month,

said: "In cooperation with all

U.N. agencies, UNHCR is

following a series of tremors \_over the past few weeks detected by a Japanese seismic expert, according to a UNHCR spokesman in Geneva. The plan is to get the refugees to an alternate site

IS. New sites at least 50 kilometres away are being sought, according to DHA's Mr. Hansen. Mrs. Ogata, in an address to about 20 donor countries. appealed for \$280 million to provide care to the total two

million Rwandan refugees in

zaire, Tanzania, Burundi and

The funds being sought by

until the danger passes," he

the UNHCR are part of a \$710 million inter-agency U.N. appeal for urgent humanitarian needs for Rwanda this year. "For 1995, UNHCR envis-

### ages that nearly one million refugees and displaced persons will return," Mrs. Ogata Mrs. Ogata, in a speech

The Pope stopped short of an apology in his arrival speech but took pains to praise Buddhists, saying he the island," she said. wanted his visit to be a sign of A bullet-proof Popemobile profound esteem for all Sri was escorted by smart presidential horsemen, and the

"In particular I express my highest regard for the followers of Buddhism," he said, specifically mennoning its four great values of "metta," "karuna," "muddita," and "upekkha," (loving kindness, compassion, sympathy and equanimity). Vatican officials have said

to apologise and that his comments in the book, based on answers to a journalist's questions, were not insulting to Buddhism. The Pontiff called for an end to the ethnic war be-

tween Tamil minority guerril-

there is no need for the Pope

las and government troops. "May all Sri Lankans of goodwill be strong and persevering in their efforts to find a just and peaceful solution to the ethnic conflict which has scarred the life of a nation... with its victims, its destruction and its terrible aftermath of suffering," he

Welcoming the Pontiff. Mrs. Kumaratunga said the government was giving the highest priority to peace and had begun a cessation of hostilities with the rebels, which began two weeks ago.

my government that the 1970.

Pope says he comes with peace to Sri Lanka peace process thus launched would result in a durable solution which will in turn usher in an era of tranquility and prosperity to all sections of our society and all parts of

> Pope received a 21-gun salute. The Pontiff was greeted by a gaily decorated baby He was not the only one affected by the heat. At least four soldiers in the ceremo-

nial line fainted and were taken away. The main purpose of the Pope's visit to Sri Lanka. which is only about seven per cent Catholic, is the beatification Saturday of Father Joseph Vaz, a Goanese missionary who worked among

the island's Catholics in the 17th century. Security is tight with more than 15,000 policemen and security forces deployed for the visit, and authorities were keeping a watchful eye for Tamil rebels and radical Buddhist monks, although neither has made any direct

carrying out stringent checks Friday at all venues. This is Pope John Paul's first visit to the verdant South Asian island, Pope John Paul VI came here on a hrief "It is the earnest hope of two-hour stopover on Dec. 4.

threat to harm the Pontiff. Crack special task force commandos who guard Mrs. Kumaratunga were assigned to protect the Pope, and were

### By Dr. Musa Keilani

King and Mu nons also likely to raise yubardk is also likely to raise www.sarus of Egyptian-Israeli of status in the wider context of mean likely that President hatarak who is embroiled now with Israel over the wish state's nuclear Jewish programme and the

Featur

Kabariti: Me

(Continued from page 1) igency. Petra, quoted Mr. jubain as saying.
At the conclusion of the At the on Tuesday. Mr. Rabarin said Jordan fully apported the final resolution of the conference and

Mr. Kabariti, who visited Imisia in response to an omation by his Tunisian

Kobe fights to

ndios and Honda Corp. pro-nding 50 generators. All Nipa Airways has offered to in freight free into Osaka. mpress would visit Kobe.

whorities were tardy in sting for military help for te disaster zone. Mr. Murayama has

appointed a minister to overgerescue and relief opera-

Israel, PLO mai

Added Environment Vinister Yossi Sand: "I hope harafter Sunday everything all be dear for Israel and Palestinians alike.

The Palestinians are deing much more. No we are not satisfied with what Rabin said." raged

lalestinian Local Governnent Minister Saeb Erakat. What we want is a comskiehalt of settlement activies. He didn't commit him-

internents as "time bombs a out faces."

amed. "We hope the Israeli overnment will halt all setdement activities to give the Peace process a proper

that in Sunday's cabinet meeting he would expressible back settlement projects and near Arab East Jeru-

dunines and their peoples, a deute, which according to western diolomats here, hingdom threatened by the dom's moves towards onsolidating relations with the Atab states, especially typi, which continues to normalising relations ith Israel 14 years after it

But official sources here aythal Jordan's quest to join had ranks has no bearing on ian-Istaeli telations and that the Kingdom is only sking to improve its relaons with Arab countries so to contribute in serving

brace, peace.

long the fact that Jordan

sublichy fact that Jordan ions of the resoluone of the Egyptian-Syrian-Summit in Alexandria ontides, which the Israelis

In the deadton. with israel. Damascus

of the development of its recom-

omation by his runnistant omnerpart, said his talks in Tunisian leaders, including Prime Ministet Hamed Al Quawi, were very posi-

(Continued from page I) ide assistance, with electric us giant NEC offering 250

> and has added 42 additional tongtion Thursday to quake Debaie grew Friday in Nobe and in the parliament in Tokyo on the reason who on the scene, and why city

Continued from page 1)

Sate there will be no more masion over government play in the occupied terri-

"Settlements and peace

braeli Housing Minister Ben-Eliezet said

in interests in the march

onlidered threatening in the deadlock in

hen between the two sides leached until Israel

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# Lesson from devastation

THE BIG earthquake that devastated Kobe and took the lives of more than 4,000 people took experts by surprise not only in terms of its magnitude and location but also in terms of the standards the Japanese use in their construction codes against earth tremors. Japan is reputed to enjoy the strictest possible rules on how to deal with earthquakes stronger in scale than the Kobe tremor. There is a big lesson in this for California and other earthquake-prone lands which seemsatisfied with existing building guidelines to lessen impact of natural disasters. If Japan's preparedness proved to be of little use, then other countries should start rethinking their policies to how to prevent catastrophes from occurring should they be the next target. One redeeming factor about Japan's current construction legislation is the fact that the modern buildings in the Kobe area withstood the recent earthquake much better than older buildings.

There is also a lesson in all this for Jordan which appears to be relatively immune from giant earthquakes.

The necessary conclusion from the Kobe experience is that earthquakes hit where they are least expected. This goes as well for Jordan. Should we wait till we are also devastated by an unexpected natural disaster before we start adopting serious measures to lessen their impact. Has the Civil Engineers Association, for example, recommended new guidelines for all new constructions? We all know that nobody in the country has started to take such threats seriously, much less do something about them. At a time when we all express our deepest sympathies to Japan and its people over the Kobe tragedy, we invite our authorities, whether public or private, to start taking such dangers more seriously and begin taking remedial actions as of now.

### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

TAHER AL Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, Friday Jerusalem Committee's meeting held in Morocco last week saving that the Muslim countries are to be commended for adopting an unanimous stand vis-a-vis the status of Jerusalem. Praising Jordan's stand, which helped to avoid ouarrels among Muslims, particularly between the Jotdanians and the Palestinians, over the holy city, the writer said that Jordan ooght now to follow up its positive steps by opening an immediate dialogue with the Palestinians with a view to polstering joint action and increasing the scope of pilateral cooperation at the economic, political and social levels. The writer expressed belief that the positive outcome of the Jerusalem Committee's meeting is bound to pave the way for successful Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations, adding that Amman's bid to restore solidarity among Arab countries would eventually lead to a stronger pan-Arab position.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Friday said that the government's decision to raise the pension of employees who retired after December 1994 was bound to create a major financial crisis for the country. It is surprising that the government came up with this idea at a time when it is common knowledge that the country is facing a deficit, and that increasing the pension for only one group, is bound to raise complaints from the 477,000 military and civilian pensioners who would demand that their pension be increased as well as in view of the rising cost of living, said Fahd Al Fanek. The writer said that those who call for the pension increase should first propose safe measures to help the government raise the additional funds for it. In order to meet the mounting demands for pension increases, the government has the following alternatives: To borrow mote and increase the country's financial burdens, to print more dinars with no sufficient resources to back the move, to impose more taxes on the people who are bound to raise the hue and cry over such dangerous idea, or to beg other nations for financial assistance and compromise sovereignJordanian Perspective

# Arab ties must be predicated on new and solid foundations

ONE OF THE tasks that His Majesty King Hussein assigned to the government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker in his letter of assignment earlier this month was to work towards improving Jordan's relations with some of the Arab countries which, for reasons best known to themselves, have been cool to the Kingdom's bonest and sincere approach to open a new era in inter-Arab coordination, solidarity and unity at this crucial point in history.

The timing and circumstances somehow coincided in favour of Jordan, and the diplimanc skills of some our rising stars on the political horizon interacted with the givens in Arab politics to give a successful boost to the serious responsibility that the King assigned to Sharif Zeid. That is what we saw in the successful visit of our Foreign Ministet Abdul Karim Kabarin to Cairo on Jan. 12 which hetalded a visit by Egyptian Ptesident Hosni Mubarak to Jordan next week. Similarly, Mt. Kabarin also succeeded in breaking through what by most counts was a psychological barrier in Jordanian-Palestinian relations, and, hopefully, we will see Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Nanonal

Authority (PNA), visiting Jordan sometime this week. We don't exactly know vet what transpired in the meetings of the Jerusalem Committee of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) in Motocco last week. But judging from the comments that Mt. Kabarin gave after the conclusion of the gathering some formula must have been found to satisfy Jordan's concern that the Arab and Muslim course in the context of Jerusalem needed a little more coherence if only to ensure that the Arab and Islamie identity of the Holy City does not fall to Israel by default. Hopefully, the emergence of the formula was also coupled with a better understanding of Jordan's argument against the Kingdom relinquishing its historic role as the custodian of the Islamic shrines in Jerusalem in the absence of a strong Palestinian authority to fill the vacuum that would be left behind.

Another feather was added to in Jordanian diplomacy with the invitation that Tunisian Foreign Minister Habib

By Elia Nasrallah

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i

daily discussed the rising

cost of living in general and the expected prices hikes in

the coming month of Rama-

dan, saying that in Rama-

dan families try hard to find

vegetables and fruits at

reasonable prices but are

usually disappointed as they

discover that they cannot

afford to purchase most of

the commodities. The wri-

ter, Nazih, urged the Minis-

try of Supply not to temain

passive, but to interfere to

protect the interests of

citizens. The writer said

that limited-income groups

suffer more during the holy

month because prices of va-

rious vegetables, fruits and meat unjustifiably rise.

Tackling a similar topic, Tareq Masarweh, a writer

in At Ra'i, pointed to the

need to stem the greed of

merchants, whom, he de-

scribed as sharks trying to

swallow up everything.

Taking the prices of coffee

as an example, the writet

said that when coffee prices

went up, the wholesate

merchants raised the prices

of stock in their stores but

when the world prices went

down they tefused to lower

the prices. The same thing

applies to otber commod-

ities, making it difficult for

limited-income groups to

cope, he said. Accusing nich

merchants of smuggling

their wealth abtoad, the

writer said that the rich,

who thrive on the suffering

of the poor, continue to

mass fottunes and are

allowed to get away with

Mohammad Daoud, a

columnist in Al Dustour

daily, said that only the

government can stem the

greed of merchants and put

an end to corruption in the

country. The writer said

that misuse of public funds.

negligence of public duty

and massing of wealth in

illegal ways is now com-

monplace in the country.

What the people expect

from the government is to

flush out the corrupt peo-

ple, put an end to favourit-

ism and nepotism and re-

form the public administra-

ion system, said the writet.

their actions.

the visit our foreign minister paid to Tunis on his way back home from the Jerusalem Committee meetings.

Recalling these recent events is not in any way gloating that Jordan has repaired the problems that plague inter-Arab relations, particularly the Kingdom's ties with some of its fellow members of the Arab League. Strides have been made, and we have to go a long way ahead before the Arab atmosphere is conducive to collective action to serve pan-Arab interests in the forward-looking spirit that Jordan has always advocated and followed.

"The peace treaty that Jordan signed with Israel on Oct. 26 resoundingly underlined the restoration of Jordan's international relations after a period of strain and highlighted the commitment and dedication with which the Kingdom followed every avenue for peace in the Middle East for decades."

The peace treaty that Jordan signed with Israel on Oct. 26 resoundingly underlined the restoration of Jordan's international relations after a period of strain and highlighted the commitment and dedication with which the Kingdom followed every avenue for peace in the Middle East for decades. It was not easy to teach that objective, but we are somewhere very near to the goal of a comptehensive, durable and just peace in the region. There might still be arguments and beliefs in some Arab and Muslim quarters in favour of the status quo that prevailed before the international conference that launched Middle East peace negotiations in Madrid in October 1991. But those argu-

ments and beliefs are simply naive and do not correspond to the realities of the age; that is, of course, if the objective is indeed to ensure a better life for the people and future generations, away from the nightmare of tension and For us in Jordan, an excellent state of relations with

and non-interference in each other's internal affairs has

always been a much-sought goal. By and large, we have

achieved it on the international level, and it was time we

turned our energies to the regional scene. Now that peace

is here, we need to muster all our energies and devote

ourselves to those aspects of nation-building that we could

every country in the world on the basis of mutual respect

not attend to because of our pre-occupation with the tension and uncertainties of the Middle East conflict. The dividends of peace are there, but we have to work hard to make the best of them. And that requires fundamental changes in our mentality and approach to things. If we commue to rely on others to do the job for us, the job will never get done, at least not to our interests. We need international and regional goodwill and that could come only if we show ourselves capable of living up to the responsibilities that the era of peace has brought to our sboulders. That will come only through fresh concepts, which have little to do with the way our society is used to. Indeed, it is a difficult process, but it can be done and hopefully will be done. However, there are many important elements related to regional cooperation that would

help along parallel to our internal efforts. At the same time, we are not blindly seeking improved regional relations at any cost. We have our national priorities right and, based on our experience in our past dealings with our Arab bretbren, we bave to find a new relationship that appreciates and respects what we have done and are tying to do in the best interest of the Arab World at large. The test few steps have been taken, as we saw in the last weeks, and it is most important that we do not lose sight of not only our objective but also the features of the path that we have to take to get there.

# 'We worship God but one heart'

Hotel in Damascus, where I

ment.... There is no God

the tiny world of the self and the empirical world. Arabic or English, "we worship God with different voices but one heart."

told the story, it was a narrative which revealed the wonderful power and grace of God. Although we use different tongues. we worship God with one

and passing through the

natural laser effect. Zeynab's tomb remains one of the most stumning and beautiful religious shrines I have ever visited. However, far beyond its physical beanty, there was a wonderful religious beauty in a conjunction of immense religious significance. As women engaged in their religious devotionals at her tomb, their children ran, played and laughed: Worship and laughter - what a wonder-

ful spiritual experience to have together. On the Sunday before Christmas, feeling lone" for my wife and daughter; Orthodox Church in Amman. It was located across the street from the beautiful King Abduliah Mosque a Coptic Christian church.

"Even without knowing Arabic, the music of the words and the simple assertion of the oneness and the majesty of God in the call to prayer provided one of those moments . essential to religious consciousness."

Even though the service was entirely in Arabic, and thus, I did not understand the meaning of the words, the musical quality of the Arabic service and the visual beauty of the Greek Orthodox litergy made the service a moving spiritual experience of worship. During the first part of the liturgy, as the cross and the New Testament were walked through the congregation, many worshippers touched or kissed each as well as other sacred icons in the sanctuary. The service lasted almost two hours (much less than the three hours, beautiful Coptic service I attended the next Sunday). Throughout the service, many believers stood for the entire time, and most lit candles during various parts of the service. The service of worship concluded with the sharing of the bread and the cup. was a worship experience of great beauty, for whether a Arabic or English, Egyptian Coptic or Greek," We

Dr. Albert B. Randall is professor of Philosophy at the Department of History and Philosophy at Austin Pery State University in Claristics S. Jetnesser, J. L. A. H.

worship God with different

voices but with one heart."

# with many voices

ONE DAY in late May 1993, just as the sun was setting I stepped onto a small ontdoor balcony attached to the room on the 11th floor of the El Faddai

was staying. As the last rays of the san began to disappear, the early evening air was filled with the antiphonal music of dozens of mosques calling Muslims to the sunset prayer. From all four corners of the city (it seemed like the four corners of the world), the emotional and powerful call to prayer filled the sky as faint stars became visible: "God is most great... There is no God but God... Mohammad is His Prophet... Come to prayer.... Come to fulfill-

security until and unless it teaches genuine peace with the Palesunians and give up Three days later, in the remote and ancient Christits colonisation of the West Bank. The writet said in a column in Al Dustour daily that there can be no peace unless the Palestinians are allowed to live in peace on theit own homeland, which should be free of all settlements. He said there can be no genuine peace without the restoration of Atab Jetusalem 10 Arab sovereignty. Despite the signing of peace treaties with Jordan and Egypt. Israel will have no real peace if it does not respond to the Palestinians' just demands, he said. The writer said that Jordan, the Palestinians. Egypt and Syria should join forces and pressure Israel to give up the occupied lands.

Hani Saoudi, a writet in al Ra'i, suggested that the warring factions in Kurdistan and other groups opposing the Iraqi regime meet in Jordan with Iraqi government representatives and discuss the best manner to safeguard Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity. At least, the various groups can meet and decide on a policy to keep the Iraqi people united he added. This move, he said, could lead to steps such as seeking the Arab countries approval of ending the sanctions, added the writer. He urged the Iraqi government to adopt a position that would llow such steps to be taken and the plight of

# Government must protect

Foreign Minister Shimon

Peres as saying that Jewish

settlements are a safe buffer

zone protecting the Jewish

state, and described the

statement as a reflection of

Israel's real intentions to

keep its control over all

Palestinian lands, regard-

less of the Oslo and the

Caito agreements. Lauding

the courageous stand of

Palestinians who are con-

fronting the Jewish settle-

ment programmes, the writer said that Israel's obsti-

nance with regard to the

settlements issue is bound

to trigger another and more

violent intifada among the

that Israel will remain a

source of threat to Arab

Mohammad Subeihi, said

opptessed Palestinians.

but God .... God is most Even without knowing Arabie, the music of the words and the simple assertion of the oneness and the majesty of God in the call to prayer provided one of religious eonsciousness: The awareness of the meffable, that is, the awareness and experience of a truth and a reality that go beyond

ian village of Maloula, Syria - the only place left in the world where the Aramaic that Jesus preached is still a spoken language - I visited the oldest convent in Christendom. The convent of Tekla was founded by a disciple of the Apostle Paul, Tekla, who was driven into the Syrian mountains by persecution.
As the Mother Superior of the Convent told us the story of Tekla in Arabic (it was translated into English for those of us who did not understand Arabic) and the miracle of the mountain splitting and a spring flowing from its rupture, her eyes filled with tears of joy. The sceptical questions that the story might raise for some, were irrelevant and meaningless to her. As she

One day later I visited the shrine of Zeynab (Mohammad's granddaughter), which is a 30 minute drive from Damascus. It is mostly a woman's shrine although many men were present. The shrine and its minaret are layered in a bright blue tile mosaic. Inside the shrine, the bright sun gleaming through the immense windows and reflecting off the blue mosaic

buted this article to the for



consumers' interests

Palestinian life in the self-

rule areas and the rest of

the West Bank and are de-

of the Oslo agreement, said

Mohammad Kawash. The

enlargement of the existing

Jewish settlements on Arab

land or building new ones

provides a sufficient proof

that the Israelis are not

oriented towards peace. He

said there can be no peace

as long as the settlement

tet in Al Ra'i, said that

peace should be an objec-

rive for all parties in the

region and not a mere tac-

tical move that would be-

nefit one party at the ex-

ter said that separate nego-

tiations between Israel and

the Arabs have proved in-

capable of dealing with cru-

cial issues of concern to all

the parties in the peace

process, and therefore

there is a dire need for the

Palestinians, the Jordanians

and the Israelis to hold joint

meetings to remove obsta-

cles hampering the attain-

ment of a lasting peace.

plementation of agreements

can only serve the purposes

of those who oppose

genuine peace on both sides

tlement programmes in the

occupied Arab territories.

Tareq Masarweh said that if

Israel is really oriented to-

watds peace with the

Arabs, it must abandon its

expansionist policies in the

occupied lands. Israel

should give the Arabs con-

crete proof that it is not an

expansionist power and that

it is not trying colonise

Arab lands if it seeks their

approval for peaceful

coexistence with the Jewish

state, said the writer, Mr.

Masarweh recalled His

Majesty King Hussein's

statement that the Arabs

seek peace which can be

sustained and acceptable to

the future generationis,

saying that the Arab masses

need to be convinced that

Israel is oriented towards

Referring to Israeli sei-

of the fence, he said.

Sultan Al Hattab, a wri-

ptogrammes confinue.

the implementation

and other penalties im-

posed by the local authorities on notorists who

violate trainc laws are in-

effective and the system is

proving to be a failute.

Sometimes we see police

Officers issuing tickets to

law abiding citizens who

forget to fasten their seat belts while voungsters who

drive at very high speed and endanger people's lives are not punished. Drivers of

mini-buses tecklessly en-

danger not only the lives of

passengers but also others

on the road, but they, mote

often than not, get away

with their actions because

most of the roads are not

watched oy the traffic

police who only choose cer-

tain locations to monitor

Salemen Ekour, a writer

in Sawt all shaab, said that

400,000 non-Jordanians are

allowed to work in the

Kingdom at a time when

the rate of unemployment is

nsing dangerously. The ser-

vices sector employs most

of the guest workers who

are constantly transferring

hard currency savings to

their home countries, drain-

ing away the country's re-

social untest and disturb-

ances in any country nor-

mally rise as a natural tesuit

of social discontent and

poverty and unemploy-

ment, the writer said that

the time has come for the

government to interfere

and force employers to

abandon the habit of em-

ploying foreign workers.

who accept lower pay and

give priority to Jordanian

wotkers even if the em-

ployers are forced in this

process to pay higher

wages. He said employers

should snoulder their re-

sponsibility towards their

in the occupied Arab lands.

a writer in Al Dustour said

that, in view of the settle-

ment programmes, the

chance for achieving peace

remains dim. The Israeli

authorities are building set-

tlements and continue to

Jihad Momani, a writer 3, control in Control in Al Ra'i, said that fines and 21

Discussing the situation

country and countrymen.

Warning that most of the

sources, said the writer.

THE WEEK IN PRINT

traffic, said the writet.

Dr. Erakat described the

<sup>Peres</sup> due here 'soo (Continued from page 1)

a peace agreement bin le Jewish state.

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Sover

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summit, the leaders n Syria, and Saudi pledged full support

that ordan war: declated support

# King and Mubarak meet today

(Continued from page 1) means to consolidate relations and clear the Arah atmosphere, President Mnharak is also likely to raise the status of Egyptian-Israeii relations in the wider context of regional disarmament.

JANUARY 21, 199

Dr. Musa Keilani

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It was likely that President Mubarak, who is embroiled in a row with Israel over the Jewish state's nuclear weapons programme and the

nuclear Non-Proliferation criticism of the Jordan-Israel Treaty (see page 12), might seek Jordanian support for his stand that Egypt would sign the NPT only if Israel also does so when the document comes up for renewal in

Also expected to be discussed by King Hussein and Mr. Muharak are Jordanian-Syrian relations, described as "quiet" in the wake of Syrian Arah World.

peace treaty. Syrian Foreign Minister

Farouk Al Sharaa was in Cairo late Friday for a hrief visit and talks with President Mubarak and Foreign Minister Amr Musa expected to have focused on the Syrian-Israeli track of peace talks, the Egyptian-Israeli dispute and developments in the

### Kabariti: Meeting an achievement

(Continued from page 1)

Agency, Petra, quoted Mr. Kabariti as saying.

At the conclusion of the meeting on Tuesday, Mr. Kaharin said Jordan fully supported the final resolution of the conference and pledged to work towards the implementation of its recom-

Mr. Kabariti, who visited Tunisia in response to an invitation by his Tunisian counterpart, said his talks with Tunisian leaders, including Prime Minister Hamed Al Qarawi, were "very posi-, Tunis soon.

He said the discussions fo-cused on "possible means to enhance Jordanian-Tunisian relations and the need to find a mechanism to settle inter-Arah disputes through preemptive action." He did not elaborate.

The foreign minister said he and Mr. Qarawi discussed plans to convene the Higher Jordanian-Tunisian Joint Committee under the cochairmanship of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and his Tunisian counterpart. The meeting will be held in

Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Al Sahhaf, on his way home through Jordan after attending the Ifran meeting, said on Friday his country was keen to consolidate. Arah solidarity and help Arah conntries overcome their differences so that they are able to counter challenges facing them.

Mr. Sahhaf commended Iraqi-Jordanian relations and also lauded positive developments witnessed in his country's relations with some Arab Gulf countries, saying this was in the interest of the whole region.

## Kobe fights to survive; toll rises

(Continued from page 1) vide assistance, with electro-nics giant NEC offering 250 radios and Honda Corp. pro-viding 50 generators. All Nippon Airways has offered to fly freight free into Osaka, and has added 42 additional

Especial de Hade donairon I mursday to quake victims and said he and the empress would visit Kobe.

Dehate grew Friday in Kobe and in the parliament in Tokyo on the reason why emergency services were late on the scene, and why city anthorities were tardy in asking for military help for the disaster zone.

Mt. Murayama has appointed a minister to oversee rescue and telief opera-

nons - Sadatoshi Ozato, director-general of the Okinawa and Hokkaido Development Agencies.

The number of Self-Defence members mohilised was more than doubled from 5,000 to 13,000 overnight. Survivors of the quake

faced new threats - inadequate sanitation, freezing temperatures and water shortages. The quake transformed one of Japan's most modern port cities into smouldering ruhhle without enough electricity, food, fuel and clean water.

Three days after the quake 110,000 households remained without power and nearly 850,000 homes still had no natural gas. The health and welfare ministry said the quake damaged so many underground pipes that water had to be shut off Friday to about one million homes.

Kansai Electrie Power Company said it hoped to restore service within a few days. But the local gas company estimated it would take a month to repair hroken lines and restore service.

Officials admitted that overcrowded shelters were critically short of all necessities. At one school, hundreds of refugees were camped in classrooms which had heat.

But scores of others wete crowded into the unheated, concrete hallways, where they spent their nights wrapped in hlankets shivering in the freezing cold.

## Israel, PLO maintain talks

(Continued from page 1) dehate there will be no mote confusion over government policy in the occupied terri-

Added Envitonment Minister Yossi Sarid: "I hope that after Sunday everything will be clear for Israel and Palestinians alike."

manding much more. "No we are not satisfied with what Rabin said," raged Palestinian Local Govern-

ment Minister Saeh Erakat. "What we want is a complete halt of settlement activi-

ties. He didn't commit himself to that." Dr. Erakat described the settlements as "time bombs

in our faces." "Settlements and peace cannot go together," he warned. "We hope the Israeli government will halt all settlement activities to give the peace process a proper

Israeli Housing Minister Benyamin Ben-Eliezer said that in Sunday's cahinet meeting he would "expressly" back settlement projects in and near Arah East Jeru-

(Continued from page 1)

countries and their peoples, a

clause, which according to

Western diplomats here,

might be threatened by the

Kingdom's moves towards

consolidating relations with

other Arah states, especially

Egypt, which continues to

resist normalising relations

with Israel 14 years after it

signed a peace agreement

But official sources here

say that Jordan's quest to join

Arah ranks has no bearing on

Jordanian-Israeli relations

and that the Kingdom is only

seeking to improve its rela-

tions with Arah countries so

as to contribute in serving

Arah interests in the march

Israel's fears might stem

from the fact that Jordan

publicly endorsed the resolu-

tions of the Egyptian-Syrian-

Saudi summit in Alexandria

last month, which the Israelis

considered threatening in

light, of the deadlock in In act. Syrian negotiations.

of Egypt, Syria, and Saudi

Arahia pledged full support

for Syria's position in peace

talks with Israel. Damascus

insists that no peace agree-

ment between the two sides

will be reached until Israel

In that summit, the leaders

towards peace.

with the Jewish state.

Peres due here 'soon' for talks

salem, despite PLO warnings the new homes could scuttle

The battle is for leru-lem, Mr. Ben-Eliezer salem," Senior PLO official

the peace process.

Ahmad Qouriea, hetter known as Ahu Alaa, criticised Mr. Ben-Eliezer for "(He) is trying to huild his

reputation at the expense of peace," Ahu Alaa told Israel

Mr. Rahm, trying summitry on Thursday with Mr. Arafat to bridge the rift with the PLO, appeared to have hought himself a hadly needed measure of time to address the heated settlement

dispute at home. Ministers of the leftist Merctz party, largest coali-tion pillar of Mr. Rabin's Labour government, have called for an immediate halt to all new settlement construction in the occupied

West Bank. The ultra-religious Shas Party, a former coalition partner which has continued to back Mr. Rabin in critical parliamentary votes, said on

tor the Alexandria summit's

resolutions as well as those

adopted by the Jerusalem Committee of the Organisa-

tion of Islamic Conference's

(OIC) meeting held in Ifran

Arab and Islamic countries to

resist Israel's attempts to

Judaise Jerusalem and reiter-

ated the conviction that

sovereignty over East Jeru-salem should be for Arabs

only and that political sovereignty over the Holy City should be for Palesti-

nians, who see Jerusalem as

the capital of a future inde-

"These stands hy Jordan,

coupled with the Kingdom's

support for Egypt's demands that Israel should sign the

nuclear Non-Proliferation

Treaty when it comes up for

extension in Geneva in April.

may be worrying to Israel in

that Jordan is altering its

position regarding its rela-tions with Israel," the sources

Israeli Prime Minister Yit-

zhak Rabin's visit to the

Kingdom on Jan. 12 was

prompted by the latest de-

velopments on inter-Arab re-

lations and that Mr. Rabin

sought Jordan's assurance

that Amman's latest moves

towards improving

Jordanian-Arah relations will

not jeopardise Jordanian-

The sources also said that

pendent Palestinian state.

The panel called on all

last week.

Thursday a settlement freeze would drive it into the arms of the hardime Likud opposi-

Mr. Rabin commands only a wafer-thin majority in par-

"If on Sunday the cabinet gives in to Meretz," Shas leader Arye Deri told reporters, "Shas will participate wholly in the opposition, and will head it where it comes to

Jerusalem." The face of East Jerusalem is so explosive a dispute that Israel and the PLO have shoved talks on the Holy City as far into the future as possi-

However, the reemergence of the settlement issue which was also to be discussed at a later date - has thrust Jerusalem to the fore-

When Mr. Rahin came to power in 1992 he secured \$10 billion of U.S. loan guarantees by pledging to halt settle-ment, seen by the Palestinians as a provocation and hy Washington as a primary stumhling block to peace.

At the same time Mr. Ben-Eliezer's housing ministry has quietly nursed along plans for tens of thousands of homes girdling the city in a vaguelydefined ring called "Greater Jerusalem.

Palestinians fear Israel is racing to stake claims ahead of talks on the city, which are scheduled to begin by mid-

Labour hawk and Jerusalem political boss Emanuel Zisman said: "Since this government arose, building and population growth has con-tinued in Maaleh Adumim, Givat Zeev, and other settlements east of Jerusalem, all of it with the knowledge, approval, and even the encouragement of the prime

minister's office." Mr. Ben-Eliezer told Israel Radio that a hlanket settlement freeze near the city could invite protests at construction within East Jeru-

Last month settlers south of Jerusalem rekindled the settlement debate hy hreaking ground on hundreds of new housing units on a hilltop near the town of Bethlehem.

The project, and others undertaken in its wake, have lent fresh momentum to the settler movement, which fot the most part had lain in a state of dormant disarray since the Rabin victory.

After Thursday's two-hout meeting at the Erez crossing point into the Palestinian seif-rule area, Mr. Arafat indicated he was not entirely content with the Israeli position on settlements.

"Somewhere in between Mr. Arafat said when asked if be was satisfied by Mr. Rabin's assurances.



# Firewood, tangerines wait for opening of Sarajevo road

By Arthur Allen The Associated Press

BUTMIR, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Jusuf Selmanovic could see Sarajevo a kilometre away as he unloaded 21 tonnes of tangerines, lemons, apples and bananas from his truck in the bitter cold.

But a kilometre is a long

way in Bosnia's war. Mr. Selmanovic's hope of carting fresh fruit into the city, spurred by the Bosnian Serbs' promise to unblock a route linking Sarajevo with the world, ended Monday with Mr. Selmanovic unloading the crates into a warehouse in this suburb of the Bosnian

The Serbs on Saturday refused to lift their blocking Sarajevo with government-held land on

the other side of the U.N.-. controlled airport. Hopes that the route will open have faded, and optimism that the current cease-fire would bring peace has flagged as well.

"I wanted to make Sarajevo happy," said Mr. Selmanovic, a 42-year-old businessman. Mr. Selmanovic said he

spent \$20,000 huying the produce and trucking it from the Croatian border over Mount Igman to Butmir, a government-held suhurh separated from Sarajevo hy the airport runway.

"I was ready to sell it at cost, because many people haven't eaten fruit in a long time." he added.

Mr. Selmanovie drove three days in hopes of en-Burmir on Sunday night, he set fires under his tractortrailer to keep the fruit from freezing. Finally, be gave up and empried his truck into a warehouse in Butmir, where the produce will be sold.

U.N. cargo planes and tucks entering Sarajevo over another route bring in the staples that keep the city alive. But that doesn't include fresh produce, and it's not enough to stop the

suffering. The aid flights and convoys don't combat the cold, either. Ten thousand cuhic metres of the firewood Sarajevans depend on enough to heat 2,000 apartments for the winter — are waiting on the wrong side

of the airport. At a former construction snpplies warehouse, the firewood is stacked in long, neat rows under a foot of

"We organised people in the villages around here to collect wood for Sarajevo," said a soldier who would. only identify himself as Ekrem. "But none of the U.N. agencies will take it

through."
Aid agencies want to move the wood, hut the Serbs won't let them, said Kris Janowski, a U.N. spokesman.

Although the Serb side allows U.N. drivers to hring in hlankets and plas-tic sheeting to keep the wind from whipping through shattered windows, the Serhs won't approve wood shipments.

"I think they just want to keep people cold and mis-erable." Mr. Janowski

Wood costs about \$30 per cuhic metre in Butmir. Across the airport, wood hacked from trees on

sniper-exposed hillsides is sold for four times as much. With the airport route closed, Bosnian soldiers, and civilians with militarysupplied passes evade the Serb blockade by carrying food and other goods, including firewood in small quantities, through a nar-

under the airport. On Butmir's main street, a shepherd drove sheep towards a slaughtethouse. From there, the meat, too, would be smuggled underground.

tow 760-metre tunnel

At a little stand set up on a piece of salvaged hus, two soldiers sold hrandy. cigarettes, coca-cola and frozen chickens.

The hayers were other soldiers, stuffing their packs with goods for the tunnel journey hack to Sarajevo.

### Chechen

(Continued from page 1)

our land. They're the ones who came to fight." diers and 553 Russian soldiers had been killed, while a further 279 Russian soldiers

were missing in action. The civilian death toll in the city could only be guessed

Those who could find transport took everything they had - televisions. stoves, refrigerators. But others left on foot, some carrying nothing but their chil-

But Friday's attacks also cut off the road leading south from the Chechen capital, until now the only route open for refugees to flee and Chechen reinforcements to

move in. As the Chechens are driven out of Grozny, nearby villages are feeling the heat

more than ever.
In Goyti, 15 kilometres from Grozny, armed men patrolled the streets and the thud of shelling could be

heard clearly.

A village elder, Mohammad Sandeyev, said his village would be destroyed if it

"We do not have military forces, we do not have tanks, or planes. We would like to compromise, because if the war comes here, the village is gone. But if we have to resist, we will resist," be said.

In Samachki, a village in western Chechenya on the border with Ingushetia, residents said they had been attacked by a Russian unit, one of an increasing number of reported clashes on the border area.

The troops entered the village Wednesday with three tanks hut were repulsed hy villagers who returned fire. killing eight troops and wounding two, said Ilia Sus-

President Yeltsin declared the military campaign in Chechenya practically over after his forces hoisted Russia's flag over the presidential palace in Grozny on Thurs-

# Seismologists wonder whether quake is prelude to even bigger one

least.

By Seth Sutel The Associated Press

TOKYO - Even as Japan struggled to cope with an earthquake that shattered a western port city, qnake watchers warned that more powerful jolts could be on the way.

"The movement of active faults like this one would trigger other movements," said Kazuo Oike, a Kyoto University seismologist. "We might face similar major quakes."

In the weeks hefore Tuesday's earthquake, Japan had had an unusual amount of seismic activity. Most of the quakes were in the northern part of the Tuesday's temhlor, cen-

tred under an island in Japan's inland sea, killed more than 1,200 people and left thousands injured. Hundreds remained trapped in the rubble. More than 500 after-

shocks rattled the region a round Kohe, 430 kilometres west of Tokyo.

Seismologists predicted some aftershocks were likely to approach the strength of Tuesday's quake, with a preliminary magnitude of 7.2 on the Richter Scale.

Katsuvuki Abe of Tokyo University's Seismology Institute said there was a good chance that aftershocks with a magnitude of greater than 6 would strike in the coming weeks. "People should remain

While the areas around Tokyo and the northern island of Hokkaido have suffered a series of quakes in the past few years, the western region around the commercial hubs of Osaka and Kobe has been nearly quake-free for some 40

cantious," he said.

That may he about to

change.
Mr. Oike of Kyoto University said this quake marks the start of a seismically active phase that could last two or three decades. In the short term, Mr. Koike said big aftershocks are likely to shake the region around Kobe for the next several months at

"Stress has been huilding up for some 40 years, and there is still a lot left," he said.

As had as the destruction was in Kohe, observers were quick to point out how much worse a similar magnitude quake in the capital would be.

Kobe has a population of 1.4 million; 12 million live m Tokyo.

"If a similar earthquake had hit Tokyo, it would he much more disastrous. It's unimaginable," said Toshiyuki Katada, Musashi Tech University geology professor. "What we observed today is a miniature version of what might happen in a possible giant

quake in Tokyo." In the hours after the quake, it quickly became apparent that the costs would be staggering. One analyst estimated them at \$10 billion to 20 billion. Full rehuilding could take

The quake is already leading to hard questions about huilding practices in

Kobe has two large developments on reclaimed land, where the ground surface cracked, water spurted out and huildings sank into the muddy ground.

The quake also triggered the collapse of some buildings and roads that officials had thought would stand up better to a strong quake.

"The disaster was a result of our insufficient work," said Motohiko Hakuno, a Tokyo University engineering professor.
"We should have made the

Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said now is not the time for recriminations. Saving lives should come first. he said.

"The most important thing we should be thinking about is to do our best to minimise the damage," he said. "Then we can get down to studying the

# Copenhagen prepares for social summit

By Erik Ramussen Special to the Jordan Times

COPENHAGEN -Copenhagen will this March host the World Summit for Social Development and at present more than 100 presidents, prime ministers and government leaders are expected to participate in the summit which was agreed on by the United Nations in

December. This figure does not include heads of states of the European Union (EU),

who are also expected to show up or U.S. President Bill clinton who are likely to attend the summitt accompanied by 700 civil servants.

Thus the World Summit

for Social Development, to be held March 6 to 12, will bring together more heads of state than the World Summit on Environment and Development which convened in the Brazilian capital Rio de Janeiro three years ago with the participation of 70 state and government leaders. Countries who will be

represented in the summit hy cahinet ministers and the Danish U.N. amhassador, Hugo Ocstoeregaard-Andersen, who expects the number of participating countries to rise to 185 countries.

Despite the impressive attendance of world leaders, the Danish minister of development warns against too high expectations as to the outcome of the World Social Summit, whose

objectives, in accordance with Article 55 of the U.N. Charter, is to promote higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development" as well as "solutions of international economic. social, health and related problems."

Some of the expectations of the world summit are based on non-realistic assessment of the world, says the minister of development.

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Jordan declared support

# Rouble hits new low on Chechenya, inflation fears Tuesday, but it has been de-

MOSCOW (R) — The rouble fell to an all-time low of 3,947 to the dollar on the Moscow Interhank Currency Exchange Friday, pushed down by fears that Russia's military campaign in breakaway Chechenya will drive inflation up.

The currency's previous re-DUB cord low was 3,926 roubles rates per dollar, reached on Rusoffici sia's Oct. 11 black Tuesday. econe The rouble initially recodle Evered sharply from black

The rouble passed its historic low level in a rather dull way, depressed by political uncertainty and inflation exnectations," said Pavel Patyako of Rossiisky Kredit

clining steadily all year and

dealers said the slide to new

lows was not a surprise.

Bank. "The rouble is slowly succumbing to rising inflation. No central bank measures can really stop the decline,"

said Vitta Bank dealer Leonid Frumkin.

Monthly inflation rose to 16.4 per cent in December, from the average of 6.5 per cent in the second and third

The central bank has used an arsenal of measures to defend the rouble, raising interest rates, selling dollars on the currency exchange and cutting banks' open currency positions — reducing the dol-lars available for banks to use

But dealers said the measures were not strong enough to prevent the rouble falling.

for speculation.

"In the end Russia will have to adopt a weak 1995 budget and take Chechen expenses into account. This will bring the rouble down seriously." said a trader with

a major bank. Finance Minister Vladimir Panskov bas put the costs of the Chechenya campaign at four-five trillion rouhles (\$11.3 billion) but said this could be covered within existing budget limits.

The latest draft budget foresees a deficit of 7.7 per cent of gross domestic pro-

But Mr. Patyako said economic reality had not affected the rouble yet. What we see now is 70-80

per cent political fallout from the Chechenya war plus traditional January inflation and expections of devaluation.

The money-printing machine will only hit the market in a month or so," he said.

Dealers said another sign of inflation expectations were rouhle interest rates of around 200 per cent for over-night credits. But even these could not help the rouble.

Bankers also say the central bank is selling hundreds of millions of dollars a day to satisfy demand and they have speculated it is running out of hard currency reserves.

toms levies - politically The government's net desensitive measures in a generficit in 1994/95 is projected at ous welfare state funded by large oil exports.

Powerful neighbour Saudi Arabia also announced bold reforms on new year's day, raising prices on heavily sub-sidised items including fuel and water to cut its own shortfall.

# Fed official sees risk

U.S. economy has so far shown scant signs of losing steam and is running an in-creasing risk of bubbling over despite Federal Reserve (Fed) efforts to cool it off, the number two man at the central bank said.

analysts expect the Fed to raise rates for the seventh time in the last year at its next meeting on Jan. 31 to Feh. 1. Mr. Blinder's comments in the interview suggest he may be willing to back another rate hike, though he likely would be wary about raising rates too much.

Since the Fed last raised rates on Nov. 15, the economy by and large has looked stronger than expected and the danger of it bubbling over into higher inflation has in-

"I think a fair reading of the evidence is that whatever the danger was two months

Mr. Blinder cautioned against reading too much into last week's news that retail sales dropped in December during the crucial Christmas selling season. He called that one of the few "blemishes" on the ontlook and said there was no genuine evidence yet of

He also made clear that the Fed would not be deterred from another rate increase by the economic crisis in Mexico if the central bank thought that such a move was necessary for the health of the U.S.

partly hlamed their country's cash squeeze on the Fed's rate hikes last year, arguing that the higher yields have drawn money out of their nation into the United States. "There isn't any question

they're maximum employment and price stability in the United States in the long run," Mr. Blinder said.
"You can't close your eyes to other things (like the Mex-

ican erisis)," he added. "(But) you can't sacrifice... the... primary goals. The Fed wants to see

growth slow to a more sustainable pace because the economy is probably already running above capacity, raising the risk of higher infla-

n. Fidelity and Merrill a Fiduciary fund and Security Security Ltd. remplating big investis the Amman Finanertet (Al Asway). n Ministry of Water 192000 is under press-

m some international from the current 15

> Municipality of Amman is detergo ahead with a the garbage dumping Russelfah. The plant mid recycle steel, and paper trash. sie to produce 600 day of femilizers in lo 4.000 tonnes of other products. completion of stuconsultant come municipality will derers on condition be joint ventures local contractor miemational comthe Jordanian par-35 per cent of the The plant is exon between JD 10

ियो Abbadi said in a be Society of In-Housing Sector the highest demand for its from low and he said, there are (f) empty housing

per cent increase

higher of people by the Social Secur-

appany is preparing in bilding a plant to bienel Greater Amepality about JD

# Tough obstacles seen facing Kuwait budget cuts

three- and six-month's time before trending lower in

12-months time to JPY/USD 95. There are number of reasons for near-term dollar strength: Widening interests

rate differentials between the U.S. and Japan, indications

that the Japanese are again sending capital to U.S. markets after a long hiatus, and further deceleration of U.S. capital

At around 370 basis points, short-term nominal interest

rates spreads between the U.S. and Japan are reaching

compelling levels. With the Fed expected to increase rates at

least two more times in the next few months and Japan

unlikely to raise rates that soon, that spread could widen by

100 or more basis points. Also, with returns in U.S. markets

looking more attractive, we are beginning to see a pickup in

Lastly, compared to his predecessor, the new U.S.

treasury secretary, Robert Ruhin, seems more adept at assuring the markets that Washington favours a strong

In the longer-term, the huge capital imbalance between

the U.S. and Japan's current accounts should continue to

weigh on the dollar, exposing it to volatility whenever capital

inflows or outflows change significantly. As Japan and

Germany raise rates in the second half, the dollar could

come under pressure again in our view. Higher rates in

Japan are likely to induce Japanese investors to keep their

money at home, putting further downward pressure on the

dollar. Indeed, in the aftermath of Japan's earthquake,

interest rates could move even higher than we currently

Technical view: The Japanese ven gained 2.9% versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Jan. 13, and was the

strongest of the six major currencies we regularly discuss.

Sentiment is oversold. While the currency did recently manage to penetrate trendline support, benchmark levels at

Nonetheless, medium term momentum is attempting to

bottom, and the currency may have withstood the worst of

the recent correction. If so, a move back toward resistance at

Deutschemark

capital inflows and a slowdown in outflows.

for 1 regic EIKUWAIT (R) — The secre Kuwaiti government appears ign : serious about slashing its blomen ated budget deficit but poli-Busitical obstacles could compli-Morcate efforts to raise revenue part and cut spending, an econo-

there

R

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act mic consultancy group said tion Saturday. H The government could lish start carrying out its mea-

sures as early as May, added the Al Shall Consultancy, a stern critic of past government reluctance to implement budget reforms.

"Chances of success may be hetter this time as Saudi Arabia has taken the lead in imposing such measures Kuwait could be encouraged to follow suit," Shall said in a

weekly review.

"We believe there is a feeling of responsibility among the finance ministry technical team and there are serious attempts to cut the deficit," it said in rare praise for offi-

But there were problems

— lack of political will, the high wage bill and arms pro-Outlook for U.S. dollar 'should eventually

curement budgets and probable parliamentary opposition to substantial spending Finance Minister Nasser

Abdulla Al Rodhan announced plans this week to cut a Gulf war-inflated shortfall by a third to one billion dinars (\$3.34 billion) in fiscal 1995/96.

1.502 billion dinars (\$5 bilion), a 23 per cent increase from the projected 1993/94 Officials predict spending

cuts in several sectors, sub-sidy reductions on petrol and services such as water and electricity and increased cus-

turn more positive occurs, we should see the mark head towards our three-, six-and 12-month forecasts of DM/USD 1.60, 1.65 and 1.60,

Technical view: The Deutschemark gained 1.9% against the U.S. dollar last week. Although the currency did break below the post-February 1994 uptrend channel, we have to respect the idea that a rally through 1.525 DM/U.S.\$ would at least allow for a test of the October high at 1.492. Sentiment was recently oversold, but is moving back to neutral territory. Momentum - which did not achieve full oversold parameters - still seems to have the potential to remain under pressure until late January or early February. Even so, initial signs of strength have become apparent. At this point, the 1.58 level still has to be monitored as important support.

Against the ven, the D-mark fell 0.9% last week. Medium-term oscillators have been under pressure since mid-October, but there are signs that momentum is beginning to firm up (even though they are not yet oversold). This potentially important change will have to be monitored closely in coming weeks. Support exists at 59-60, with resistance coming in above 66.50.

#### Pound sterling

Fundamental view: The British pound was steady against the mark in the most recent week following a period of pronounced weakness. Against the dollar, the pound followed the mark higher. Currently the pound is trading at DM/GBP 2.40 and USD/GBP 1.57. Like some of the other European currencies, the pound has been suffering from political concerns and the realisation that a rate increase in the U.K. is not likely before March. Still, real interest rate spreads between the U.K. and Germany have widened in the last month with the 3-month spread increasing by nearly 30 basis points, which suggests the pound selloff was probably overdone.

We expect the pound to rebound against the mark and trade neare our three-month forecast of DM/GBP 2.45 and to appreciate further to our 6-month forecast of DM/GBP 2.50 as the spread between the U.K. and Germany continues In 12-month's time, we expect the pound to still be trading

near DM/GBP 2.50. However, we caution that as inflation in the U.K. begins to pickup while German inflation continues to improve, the real interest rate spread could narrow and be less supportive, in our view. In line with our forecast for stronger dollar appro-

against the mark, we expect the pound to slip to USD/GBP 1.53 in the next three months before recovering to USD/ GBP 1.56 in 12-month's time.

Technical view: The British pound advanced 1.1% versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Jan. 13. Sentiment is near oversold. Momentum is weak and has the potential to remain so until Fehruary. Important nearby support exists down to 1.526 U.S.\$/L. and a break below that level would allow for a test of the January low at \$1.465. Resistance exists near \$1.58, then \$1.643.

has peaked, suggesting that the rally since September is over. Resistance exists at 2.465, and nearby support exists at

The following report, covering the period from Thursday Jan. 12, 1995 to Wednesday, Jan. 18, 1995, is provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at 1C Merrill Lynch-Dubai.

#### Currency comment

#### Overview

the Fundamental view: Assuming that the Fed proceeds with 3.8 several more rounds of tightening, the outlook for the U.S. tra dollar should eventually turn more positive. Huge capital cui outflows from the U.S. have been an imporant negative for an the dollar in recent years, as U.S. retail investors invested ger aggressively in offshore markets through stock and bond mutual funds. The sharp drop in net asset values that many wa funds have registered due to the selloff in emerging markets. the combined with more attractive rates of return on U.S. short-term interest rates, is likely to induce greater risk of aversion among individual investors.

We believe that should sharply reduce, if not temporarily 3 reverse, capital outflows from the United States and eventually be a plus for the dollar.

In the very near term, however, turmoil in emerging market capital and currency markets may work against the dollar by forcing these countries to sell their dollar reserves as they attempt to support their currencies. We recently made a modest upward revision to our outlook for the dollar against European currencies and the yen to reflect the prospect for a sharp reduction in U.S. capital outflows, Our current forecast now calls for the dollar to rise to the

<sup>2</sup> DM/USD 1.60 to 1.65 level over the next three-to-six months and to the JPY/USD 105 level over the same period. But with interest rates in both Japan and Germany projected to rise in the second half of the year, we believe the dollar could come under pressure again. Japan's earthquake adds considerable uncertainty to the outlook, but in our view the risk eventually is for upward pressure on the yen in response to potential upward pressure on Japan's interest rates. For now, our 12-month targets for the dollar are JPY/USD 95 and DM/USD 1.60.

Technical view: The U.S. dollar was generally weak against the most of the world's major currencies during the week ended Jan. 13. As a result, the dollar index experienced its largest week-to-week loss since June. The index recently failed to penetrate resistance in the 89.00-91.00 area. In addition, sentiment has been overbought, while short-

term momentum has been weak. At the same time, medium term oscillators appear to be peaking. With downside pressures mounting, a decline helow \$7.60 will exacerbate the medium-term deterioration and set the stage for 86.90.

### Japanese ven

Fundamental view: In the last few weeks we have seen increased evidence that the dollar may have bottomed against the yen, for now. We have revised our short- and medium-term forecasts to reflect this, but continue to expect a longer-term trend of dollar weakness. Our new forecast is for the dollar to strengthen to trade near JPY/USD 105 in

#### 96-97 has become an increased probability. Further strength toward 92-93 remains a possibility.

100.80-101.80 Y/U.S.\$ have help up so far.

Fundamental view: The Deutschemark benefited recently from a "flight to quality" following the Mexican crisis and a rise in political and fiscal concerns in some European countries. So far, the mark has been able to hold onto those gains and is currently trading near DM/USD 1.53 compared to DM/USD 1.58 at the end of December. At this level, the mark is probably overbought and we expect it to return to trade near DM/USD 1.60 over the next three months as the Fed raises interest rates in the U.S. as expected, and it becomes clearer in Germany that the sundesbank will probably wait until the second half of the year before raising the Lombard or the discount rate.

Indeed, the Bundesbank may even keep the repo rate fixed until after the May French elections. In support of this are the very weak retail sales data for November and the likelihood that M3 money supply for December will come in

As the interest rates spread between Germany and the U.S. widens and a further slowdown in U.S. capital outflows

Against the DM, sterling fell 0.7% last week. Momentum

# Peanuts









# Andy Capp





### I Mutt'n'Jeff

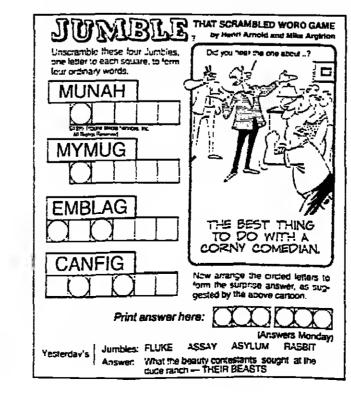








"It was early, I didn't have my coffee yet. At the time, a dental floss toupee seemed like a good idea!"



# of U.S. economy overheating WASHINGTON (R) — The

Fed Vice Chairman Alan Blinder told Reuters in an interview he was surprised by the strength of the economy in the closing months of 1994 but added that he still expects growth to slow this year. "There's going to be a

natural — given what's already happened - slowdown in the economy towards sustainable growth," Mr. Blinder said. To help bring that about,

Mr. Blinder said the Fed believes the economy may have expanded by about five per cent in the closing three months of 1994. That compares with already robust growth of 3.9 per cent in the third quarter and is about twice as fast as the central bank thinks desirable to keep a lid on inflation.

ago, it looks bigger now," he

a sharp slowdown in growth.

Mexican officials have

about what the most important objectives are - and

tion, Mr. Blinder said.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1995 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: If you don't act hastily in relation to your money and other practical interest you will be able to make a lot of beadway towards an intelligent course of action today under three very positive planetary aspects.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get out into the outside world and accomplish a good deal and persevere even though tempted to turn TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Carry through with ideas you have in

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You have many practical things to do so keep busy at them and don't fall for some silly temptation. Do small tasks for your mare.

mind and make your dreams come true. You must be practical at this

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Get in touch with associates today and come to a fine agreement for the future. Avoid heavy activities, be happy.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get your duties so arranged that they can be efficiently handled, even if you have to forego pleasure for the time being.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Get entertainment plans worked nut early and stop wasting time sitting around lazily. Take the one you love to a delightful place.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Though you may have to do some marketing and shopping, your home is your best bet today and tonight. Invite friends in for a visit. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Contact those who are

unavailable during the busy work days and enjoy hobbies, etc. Handle business affairs wisely. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Get into practical affairs which are important today and make a new plan to bave greater prosperity and success for you.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 tn January 20) Forget private anxieties and do all that angling which can gain you down-to-earth goals which are typical Capricon in nature. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Think about how to gain

practical aims which are important to you. Avoid that pal who could lead you down the primrose path. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Look to an ideal friend who has fine ideas which can bring you much progress. Then forget the practical in the evening and be social.

Birthstone of January: Garnet - Rose Quartz



usiness

Teat 1 review conomic news the Arabic press

g firms ace new *llenges* Jardaneh, chair-Dar Al Dawa phar-

al industry, said the ray with Israel was jonal challenge to the a pharmaceutical inthe Israeli drug s strong and dee mentioned the TITHA company induces medical pro-orb \$500 million a d has its markets in and many European s. Mr. Jaidaneh also under the GATT ons, which require mence to intellectual inghts, including the (avention, Jordanian distries will negativeflected as far as their s to introduce new em the future. Such ion he explained, nee starting scientific hummediately to arnew discoveries (Al

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million (Al Ra'i).

the soups (Al Dustour). historic city of was visited by lourists last year. of visitors repre-

Givil Aviation Au-Currently making making with South with the aim of air transport with those coun-

Portion rose to last year, from the end of 1993 was 361,000 of Shaab).

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A réview

of economic news

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AE (R) — The Banks honoured late lists for Federico Fellar thing a week of lists work changed the factors and cinema love and honour change of the factors and cinema love the honour change of the factors and cinema love the honour change of the factors and cinema love the honour change of the factors and cinema love the honour change of the factors and cinema love the honour change of the factors and cinema love the honour change of the factors and cinema love the honour change of the factors and cinema love the factors and cinema love the factors are the factors and cinema love the factors and cinema love the factors and cinema love the factors are the factors and cinema love the factors and cinema love the factors are the factors and cinema love the factors and cinema love the factors are ed to a three-day content of the fire winner winner fire is Oscar winner he in or of some of 30 films. ior of some or some in classics and (1954). "La Dole (1960). Fellini ded a completa." from the Arabic press 21. 1993. He would be Friday, water

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Britain Britain Sizies Britain in challenges challenges

Telling films, with the companied seems a little smaller correction of Dar Al Dawa pharmaceutical industry, said the peace treaty with Israel was an additional challenge to the lordanian pharmaceutical industry as the Israeli drug indus

m your mother's a po drug industries will negative-s and your father's a por drug industries will negative-far more interesting by be affected as far as their far more interesting a capability to introduce new 12 Said to me, recomme medicine in the future, Such medicine in the sublained, newins born i days apart

W ORLEANS LOUISE → A New Oilez \*\* Alliance Capital Man-The given bent agement, Fidelity and Merrill Lynch, a Fiduciary fund and Baring Security Security Ltd. are contemplating hig investments in the Amman Financial Market (Al Aswaq). The Mass 2007 15 weeks with The Ministry of Water and Irrigation is under pressthe war a which to be use from some international her mode organisations, which finance tun term and various projects for the Signature one de the charges for irrigation water. The organisations, Hospital according to an informed g with would not source, also want farming i. . . . . . . . . patterns changed, whereby farmers stop planting grains, בו אסר הריי יי יי יי יי banana and citrus trees and

apanese climb iirnalayan peak

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turn to plants that consume

As participants in a confer-

third bus ence last year, these orga-

less water, give higher yields

and can be easier marketed.

nisations recommended that

charges for irrigation water

be raised from the current 15

fils per cubic metre to 35 fils

pem. Irrigation water

accounts for 74 per cent of the consumption (Al Ra'i). ATTE ANDL APIER \* ★ The Mnnicipality of Greater Amman is determined to go ahead with a plan to set up a fertilizer plant by the garbage dumping site in Russeifah. The plant, which could recycle steel, glass, plastic and paper trash, will be able to produce 600 Saturday, tonnes a day of fertilizers in - Saturdas, C addition to 4,000 tonnes i from the it annually of other products. Upon the completion of studies by consultant companies, the municipality will invite tenderers on condition that bids be joint ventures

gangery glimber 📴 to do the inimalayan pear

between a local contractor and an international company, with the Jordanian party holding 35 per cent of the contract. The plant is ex-pected to cost between JD 10 To JD 15 million (Al Ra'i). \*\* Greater amman Mayor Mamdouh Ahhadi said in a lecture to the Society of Investors in the Housing Sector ... that the highest demand for # housing is from low and k limited-income people. In contrast, he said, there are

tints for average, and high-\* of to the bistoric city of Madaba was visited by noted 106,258 tourists last year. wenter The number of visitors repreients a 100 per cent increase The Civil Aviation August shority is

about 5,000 empty housing

of me shority is currently making official contacts with South Africa, the Philippines and North Korea with the aim of igning bilateral air transport igreements with those counries (Al Ra'i).

of his governd by the number of people oney in Osty Corporation rose to ncerts in the 100,000 last year, from the most 24,000 at the and a second the mass we 24,000 at the end of 1993.

Sole and the number of those still the last working was 361,000, of society still stans (Al Shaab).

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COMPANY & PARK	TEXALISE VOLUME	CLOSUPO		CPOSTN CPOSTN
Atta and	33			
AND BANG JOHOAN RATIONAL BANK	327,644 366,133	1.310	181.669	187.24
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INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	27, 133 78,825	3.323 3.388	3.000	
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John Jalianic and Mislema and	114.143	3.100	1.100	1.12
PORCH INVESTMENT I PINANCE RANK	13, 317 16, 163	1,110	3.330	3.33 7.74 1.12
THE THE LANGE INVESTMENT FOR MODERN	11,461	1.150	1.190	1.120
MALE PARTIES CORPORATION/JORDAN PALLANGUNIA INVESTMENT BANK.	5,331 33,431	4, 110	4.170	4.123
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WIND INMACE	4,735	2.000	1,070	1.00
MANANTA TANDER MANANTA TANDER MANANTA	11,110	7.005		1.150
AMOUN INSURANCE I RELEMBRANCE OLY LAND INSURANCE	349	3.500	1.200	
CAN NATIONAL MACTA INCOMENTAL  AND FILE & VACIOUS INCOMENTS	4,126 3,323	3.33q 3.35 <b>q</b>	1.326	1-696
	1,321	1.3%		1-961
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PORNEJAN ZEBETRIC PO-ER	111,411	1.546		
POREARIAN MACTRIC POWER /NEW MOREAR MOTEL I TOURLEM	34,332 1,130	1.378	1.220	1-396
POPDAR BINES HIFSTAL	2,341	3. 166	1.020	1-120
TORDAN MATIGMAL 20179100 LEMES	51,126 13,311	1.   14	3.176	7-166
INTIONAL PROTTOLIO ABGORITALES PERL ESTATE INVESTMENT	70, 413 335	1.174		1.100
CANAN GELF SEAL SPEATS INVESTMENT WESTERNY SQUIP, RESTREE A SAIPTMENCE	10.200	1.348	1.114	1.35/
POTON PARSE POSPONIZOR / ALPA'S	33,343 13,344	13.350	8. 750 12. 326	11.38
UNA INTEL. POR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION MANAGEME EXPATRIMENTS INVESTMENT POLYMAN	117, 226	1.700		1.100
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		CHARGE		1.411
CORMAN TOWARDS N. C.	1,417	20,500	10.300	33.416
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THE AND POTABLE/ED-	4.414	8.500	1.300	5 · 300
LAS JOOGALATOT COMPENSIVE & VCKTCOTLINET.	16,262 1,142	1.120		3.386
THE SOUTH MERSTED WILLE WAS PHARMACEUTICAL PARKYMETH INC	84,  14  34, 943	2.100	3.105	. 3.374
PORDAN CENTRE INSUFFREES	7,314 178	1.300	1.120	3.150
THE JORDAN PIPES MAJORACTURISM PORMAR PAPES & CARDONED FACTORIES	3,301	1.000		7.316
THE PUBLIC HIPIDS SPERMING & MICHARD	117	1.026	1.100	3.33
MAPTA 1909WIRLES DAR AL DAVA SEVELOPHENT & DAVISTHENT		1.170	1,170	3.130
MAS INVESTMENT & IMMERITATIONAL TRACE	141,142 27,741 20,853 311,951	1,050	1,420	1.616
LIVERTOCK & POSILIST NAME PAPER CONTESTED I TRADIST	311, 051 13, 194	1.120	0.726	0.454
CATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY	13,194	4.226	4,214	1.120
PREMIEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES PORGAN ROCKWOOL INDUSTRIES	3,426	] , 6]6 ] . 166	1.366	1 -24
**************************************	2.220 21,171	7, 626 6, 626	4.554	4.404
MATIONAL CAME & WIFE PROPERCIALISM	3,174 4,201	3.386	3.120	7-350
MAS CENTER FOR PRANK, & CHRICALS FRANKS INVESTMENT	1, 113	2.766	2,118 1.774	3-144
PRIVERSAL MODEL MODEL TARRESTEE	17,641	7.100		4-124
JOSPAN LINESTRIAL RESONACES CD.	111,441	1,126	19-150	3.410
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CONTRAL CENTRAL TRADING & STORAGE	44,120	4.776	0.144	3-16
PORDAR TRADE PICILITIES	220, 143	4.PAm 1.235	3.420	4.61
TARKA PAPUNTE UNIVERSITY UNIFIED CO., FOR GROUPING DE LAND TRANS.	78,64] 61,733	2.463	2,448	1-37
ARAB FIRMCIAL INVESTMENT ARAB FOOD I MEDICAL APPLIANCES	111,161 2,125	1,126	1.104	1 42
PATIONAL ENGLISH ISSUFFICE CO.LCC. PATIONAL TOTTLE & PLASTICE INC. CO.	14,3 <b>64</b> 13,314	1,420	1.220	1.17
JOHON MO CAPLE COMMAND	416,113	1.544	1.745	1.40
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# Brokers finding fewer people dealing at AFM from the week's opening of JD 1.2 million. or 23.8 per I44.7 points, indicating what cent, and insurance stock

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Trading and share prices at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) slipped last week as many investors refrained from dealing, awaiting concrete government announcements of development and infrastructure projects, brokers said Friday.

The weekly report of the market said turnover during last week was JD 5 million, down 43.8 per cent from the previous week's JD 8.9 mil-

The general share price index hased on 60 companies closed at 143 points, down

1.7 points, or 1.2 per cent.

many brokers described as investor apathy.

The separate sector indices reflected a similar mood in all areas of trading, they said. pointing out that the industrial index closed 2.2 points. or 1.7 per cent down, the services sector 2.1 points, or 1.6 per cent, the insurance sector 1.1 points, or 0.8 per cent and commercial hanks and financial institutions 1.3 points or 0.8 per cent.

Industrial stock accounted for JD 2.16 million, or 42.9 per cent, of the weekly turnover, followed by commercial banks and financial institutions with JD 1.64 mil-

lion, the services sector with

cent, and insurance stock with JD 38,000, or 0.8 per cent

The AFM report said 2.8 million shares changed hands under 3.678 deals during the week. Shares of 80 companies were traded during the week, with 12 of them: showing gains, 64 showing losses and four remaining stable. Brokers said they were

finding fewer people dealing in the market. "I am surorised at the low number of people who turn up at my office as compared with this time last year," said a dealer who operates own portfolios as well as trades on behalf of

"Right now it is a huyer's

market and prices are steadily slipping because people seem to be shifting capital elsewhere," said the broker, who, like other AFM dealers, cannot be identified by name under standing market guide-

The hike in interest rates and the limits imposed by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) on commercial bank credit facilities are also major factors in the depression in the stock market, according

to the broker. According to the hroker and hanking officials, the market would remain stagnant until such time the government makes clearer indications of its economic and monetary policy and also announces major infrastructure projects.

"Given the leading role that the public sector has in this area, the private sector, particularly the stock market, tends to look to the government to launch new initiatives that could hold out promises of contracts for the private sector," said the hroker.

"There is also the ambiguity over the Jordanian-Palestinian economic agreement and the Israeli-Palestinian accord," noted the broker. "As long as thesethings remain as they are, I expect the prices to continue to slip in the first quarter of

### Abu Dhabi consortium may revive ailing Scottish hospital

LONDON (AP) - A consortium led by Ahu Dhahi Investment Company may take over Health Care International (HCI), the private Scottish hospital founded by two American doctors, a spokesman for receivers

Arthur Andersen has said. The posh 260-bed hospital opened seven months ago with state-of-the-art technology, Harvard-trained doctors, and a four-star botel for family members. But they never got enough patients to stay in business. HCI never treated more than 20 patients at one time.

Touted as one of the world's leading centres for cardiac and cancer care, the bospital went into receiversbip in November. The receivers fired 50 HCI staff. HCI now has 350 employees. of which 25 are doctors, said an HCI spokeswoman

"A consortium led by Abu Dbabi Investment Company are the preferred bidders. We hope to close by the end of January," said the Arthur Andersen spokesman, who added that he would not reveal the price until the deal is

bullion markets Friday.

One sterling

finalised. He also spoke on

condition of anonymity. Rumours that the Scottish government lured the investment company hy investing another £4.4 million (\$6.6 million) into the hospital has enraged local opposition Labour legislators.

In a letter to Scottish affairs select committee, George Robertson, the local member of parliament from the Labour Party, wrote: "It would he indefensible if another £4.4 million was to be used as a 'sweetener' for what is already a bargain basement sell-off."

HCI, founded by two former Harvard surgeons, has been embroiled in controversy ever since it opened. Despite claims to the contrary, critics feared that HCI would undermine the free national health service.

They worried that the hospital would lure away health service doctors with offers of bigher wages and steal patients by advertising immediate care with sophisticated medical technology, eventually forcing government-

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

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Japanese yen

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One ounce of gold \$382.90/383.30

1598.2/9.2

# Union carbide holds 45% of Kuwaiti petrochemical project

KUWAIT (AP) — The U.S. chemical giant Union Car-hide will have a 45 per cent stake in a new petrochemical plant in Kuwait, the first time a foreign partner has been allowed to invest in the government-run oil sector, a

company official has said. Tayfun Altug, husiness manager at Union Carhide, told the Associated Press that Kuwait's government-owned Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC) will own 45 per cent of the plant, whose construction is scheduled to

begin hy the end of the year. Ten per cent of the shares will be offered to the public through a share holding company to be set up in the emirate soon,

The emirate is hoping that such privatisation would revitalise the economy, devastated by weak oil prices and the costs of the 1991 Gulf will churn out 450,000 tonnes

Mr. Altug said the joint ventre will cost around \$2 billion. The facility will be built in

Shuaiba, an area with an oil refinery and a port about 40 kilometres south of Kuwait

City.
"We have a very good fit in this venture," said Mr.
Altug. "Union Carhide has the technology and marketing expertise and (Kuwait's) PIC bas the feedstock."

He said Kuwait's infrastructure and facilities were encouraging for such projects, and the emirate provided easier access to Far East markets than the United

The plant is expected to be inaugurated in July 1997. It will produce 650,000 tonnes a year of ethylene from natural gas. From ethylene, the plant

a year of polyethylene and 340,000 tonnes of ethylene

glycol.
The Union Carbide official said the partners in the venture will provide 40 per cent of its finances while the other 60 will be borrowed from

"We are talking with three groups of banks, Italy's Sace Bank, Germany's Hermes Bank and U.S.'s Exim Bank," said Mr. Altug.

The partners have appointed Chemical Bank, J.P. Morgan and National Bank of Kuwait as consultants for the financing plan which should be completed by early June, according to a PIC paper.

PIC said it hoped that the success of this project would encourage other investors to enter the Kuwaiti market.

# Saudi shipping firm pursues expansion plans

ABU DHABI (AFP) — A 1995 as part of the five-year major Saudi shipping firm said Friday it was pressing ahead with the purchase of five supertankers and the opening of new lines to Asia as part of expansion plans prompted by growing busi-

The National Shipping Company of Saudi Arabia NSCSA), to petrochemical transporter in the world, said it had launched a new service to China and would operate lines to more ports in line with its 1992-1996 plan.

"New operations plans have been drawn up for

development plan ending in 1996," said Hussein Ali Al Maktoum, NSCSA deputy general manager for technical information and shipping

paring marketing studies to serve additional ports in the region during the second ment sent to AFP.

"The company is also pre-

The statement said the Riyadh-based company would go ahead with buying five very large crude carriers (VLCC) being built by the Japanese firm Mitsubishi. It did not elaborate on the

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between \$400 million and \$480 million: Three other tankers have been ordered by the NSCSAcontrolled National Chemical of more than \$150 million.

order but NSCSA sources

said the five vessels would

have a deadweight of 300,000

capacity of more than 2.1

million barrels. Costs ranged

tonnes each and a loading

The deal would be funded through bank loans and two local key banks have already extended more than \$70 million to finance the first two tankers, one of which has been delivered.

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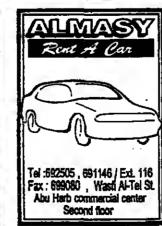
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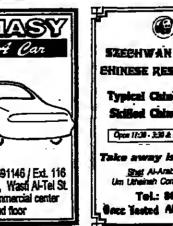
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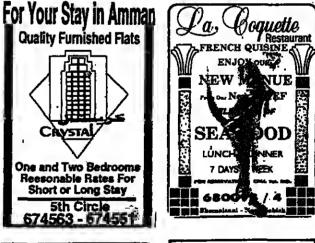
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# Australian Open

# Courier marches into fourth round

Two-time champion Jim Courier blasted a path into the last 16 with a cracking straight sets win over Australian Mark Woodforde at the Australian Tennis Open Fri-

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Courier, seeded ninth, strung together his eighth straight win in Australia this year, with a 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 demolition of the Australian left-hander in one hour 45

Courier came into the tournament winning the Australian Hardcourt championship in Adelaide where he beat Woodforde in the semi-final in straight sets. The no-frills Courier set up

a round of 16 encounter with Czech Republic's unseeded Karel Novacek, who earlier Friday dumped seventh seeded Michael Stich out of the year's first Grand Slam. The German serving giant,

a former Wimbledon champion and a U.S. Open finalist last year, continued his sequence of early exits at the majors when Novacek ejected the seventh seed, 7-5, 6-2, 6-4 in 99 minutes.

Stich made first round exits at last year's Australian Open and Wimbledon, second round at the French Open and was a first round loser at the 1993 U.S. Open.

"I feel I am playing at a high level and I served well on the big points," said Courier.

Asked if be would lose a set given his current strong form, Courier said; "Just stick around, I'll lose couple. I am playing very well, but there will be days when some guys are going to beat me, I know that...but hey. I'm hap-

py now, I'm smiling."
Courier was broken in his opening service game to love with the home crowd barracking for Woodforde, but the 24-year-old Courier hit back breaking the red-headed Australian to 15.

Courier, controlling the match with his fierce forehands and working to Wood-forde's backhand, broke again in the sixth game when Woodforde's forehand was

long to lead 4-2.
The American broke Woodforde's serve in the ninth after he had held a total of five set points. Courier turned up the in-

tensity a few more notches in the second set, breaking Woodforde in the fifth and ninth games to take a 2-0 lead.



Jim Courier

Although Woodforde broke Courier in the third match to lead 2-1. Courier back in the sixth when the Australian's backhand went over the baseline and he broke again in the eighth to lead 5-3 and serve out for the

Courier's serve was on the spot, with a 65 per cent first service and four aces. He hit 32 winners to Woodforde's 26 and held a

total of 10 break points to Woodforde's six. Courier hit I7 forehand winners, while Woodforde committed 32 unforced

Earlier in the day, Pete Sampras marched into the fourth round disturbed by vet another health scare to the man who guided him to world

Sampras disposed of Swede Lars Jonsson, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4, parcelled up in 99 minutes to set up a round of 16 meeting with 15th seed Magnus Larsson, also of Sweden,

But Sampras had to play on after he learned that his coach of three years, Tim Gullikson, bad collapsed and had been taken to hospital. He was said to be having tests and resting in hospital late

43-year-old Gullikson, who has had two strokes and been diagnosed with a heart prob-

It is the third setback for

portedly on a blood-thinning drug, first became ill during a tournament last October in Stockholm where he crashed into a glass table and badly cut his face, requiring many

Romanian Irina Spirlea in the

Madagascar player wins

If there was a prize for

niceness at the \$6.2 million

Australian Tennis Open,

Dally Randriantery of Mad-

gascar would win it in straight

sets with her disarming smile

and refreshing charm.

Dally, at 17 the first profes-

sional from the Indian Ocean

island, went down fighting

here Friday to fellow French-

speaker Mary Pierce 6-3, 6-3

in the third round of the

women's singles, but won the

hearts of the centre court

happy about that," Ran-driantery said, flashing her

bright smile and the gold stud

that covers old scar tissue in

It was not so much about

way she played the game. It's

not about technical or tactical

things," she said, but about

fighting, and I am happy.

Randriantery, who has yet to turn a profit as a profes-

sional, and depends on a

Swiss-based institution.. to

keep going, has earned \$14,250 U.S. here.

opponents with services

breaking the 200kph barrier

during the first two rounds.

with Lars Rehmann and

Michael Stich both hitting

Two Germans bave blitzed

"I gave all I had and I am

crowd.

her nose.

over the crowd

round of 16.

He again came to grief early last month during the Grand Slam Cup in Munich suffering another stroke which hospitalised him for eight days before he returned

Now after accompanying Sampras to the Australian Open Gullikson is again in hospital.

Amy Frazier, the American 14th seed, was the casualty in the women's draw, succumbing to Japan's Kyoko Nagatsuka. 6-3, 6-3. Nagatsuka, a 20-year-old from Chiba City, is making a name for herself having ended Martina Hingis's run in the second round.

Reigning Wimbledon champion Conchita Martinez had to contend with an aggressive Kristie Boogert and a stiff neck before clinching a place in the fourth round. Martinez, seeded second to

Spanish compatriot Arantxa Sanchez Vicario here. blunted Boogert's 170kph serves, to win her third round match, 6-3, 2-6, 6-3, in II4

Martinez, who described the 21-year-old Dutch player's performance as "unbe-Gullikson, who is re- lievable," will now play 203kph.

Chang hungry for another Grand Slam title

MELBOURNE (AP) - It is more than five years since Michael Chang shocked Stefan Edberg and the tennis establishment at the French Open and became the youngest Grand Slam singles

The American is hungry for another major, but says he is not frustrated by bis failure to add another to his

"I feel everything is in God's time," Chang, the fifth seed, after beating German Martin Damm 6-3, 7-5, 6-3 to move into the fourth round of the Australian Opeo, the year's first Grand Slam "The opportunity will come around for me to win

another Grand Slam...I'm still bungry for the next one. You know, once you get the first, you think this kind of tastes good and you want a second." Chang, 22, ranked sixth in

the world, is a self-effacing man with a strong religious He is known for having a

that sense God's timetable is way ahead of mine." Chang, wincer of a careerwide range of interests outbest six ATP tour finals and U.S. \$1.79 million prize money last year, said the side tennis, and is involved in ebarity work and tennis derebound ace surface at the Australian Open suited his

"It's pretty similar to the U.S. Open," be said. "I'm most comfortable on a bardcourt surfaces." He said he did not fear any player on the men's tour.

'I'm not afraid to play Pete (Sampras) at all. I'm not afraid to play anyone at all." the Nevada-based Chang

"I'm not going to step out on court thinking someone else is better. Otherwise you've lost before you start." Chang defied windy conditions to down Monte Carlo-based Damm. ranked 84 in the world on court 2 at the National Tennis Centre. At 4-3 in the final set, as

Chang stepped np to serve, a sudden gust whipped a court-side umbrella into the air and the handle pierced a stand boarding, emerging between two spectators in the first

Chang, bowever, did not rate the conditions overly dif-

"It was a little bit more difficult, but you'd rather deal with wind than heat," he

Chang, playing in his third

Australian Open, faces Frenchman Olivier Delaitre in the fourth round.

rushing with 1,883 yards on

# 49ers big betting favourite to win Super Bowl

LAS VEGAS (R) — The San Francisco 49ers are nearly three touchdown favourites to beat the San Diego Chargers in Super XXIX, a record for the biggest point spread set by this town's casinos for the big game.

The spread ranged from winning or losing, but the 19-20-1/2 points for the showdown on January 29th for the National Football League championship.

"The public's perception is that the 49ers are the greatest team since sliced bread," said Fred White, sports book manager of Leroy's Horse and Sports Place, a firm which operates race and sports books at 36 outlets throughout Nevada.

The public feels San Francisco just can't lose," said White.

The 49ers scored 505 points during the 1994 regular season, one of the highest totals in NFL history. The Chargers scored 381 points. But the public perception

is being blown way out of proportion. If this was a regular season game the point spread would be 12." White "I think the public would

lay 30 points on San Francis-co." says Sid Diamond. sports book director at the Excalibur, only partly in jest. San Francisco and San Diego met in the regular season with the 49ers winning

That San Diego barely won its two playoff games by a combined total of just five points, while San Francisco won its two games by 39 points, including a 10-point victory over the two-time defending Super Bowl champions Dallas Cowboys, hasn't helped inspire confidence in the Chargers.

Michael Chang

velopment programmes in

"There are times when I

"Tenns is not the most im-

portant thing in my life...but

that doesn't rule out wanting

another Grand Slam. Some-

times when you're seeing your peers winning grand

slam titles, you want a piece

of that. I never thought about

winning a Grand Slam title at

17 in the French Open, so in

wonder what God has plan-ned for me," be said.

"I was trying to decide what case I could make for San Diego winning, and I can't necessarily find one," said Bob Gregorka, race and sports book director at the

"We just can't attract much San Diego money right now," says Russ Culver, sports book director at the Palace Station.

Sports books try to bave

the same amount of money bet on each team to reduce their dependence on a particular team covering or fail-

ing to cover the point spread. Sports books make a profit from a 10 per cent fee or vigorish' that's charged each better when the wager is made

The most one-sided perception of a Super Bowl contest before this year was in 1969 when the Baltimore Colts opened as a 16-point favourite over the New York Jets and closed as an 18-point

The Joe 'Willie' Namatbled Jets upset the Colts 16-7. "San Diego doesn't have Joe Willie." White said.

back Dan Marino and De-

Marino, Sanders voted MVP

Miami Dolphins quartertroit Lions running back Barry Sanders were voted Most ferences in balloting by the National Football League 331 carries to earn NFC MVP Players' Association Thursrushing. Marino threw for 4,453 yards and 30 touchdowns in

leading the Dolphins to the

Valuable Player in their con-

AFC East title. Sanders led the league to

Players voted for awards in eight categories for each conference. The following is the complete list of 1995 NFLPA award winners:

American Football Conference (AFC)

Most Valuable Player: Dan Marino, Miami Dolphins Special Teams Player of the Year: Eric Metcalf, Cleveland Browns Offensive Lineman of the Year: Richmond Webb, Miami

Offensive Rookie of the Year: Marshall Faulk, Indianapo-Defensive Lineman of the Year: Bruce Smith, Buffalo

Linebacker of the Year (tie): Kevin Greene, Pittsburgh Steelers, Junior Seau, San Diego Chargers Defensive Back of the Year: Rod Woodson, Pittsburgh

Defensive Rookie of the Year: Antonio Langham, Cleveland Browns.

National Football Conference (NFC)

Most Valnable Player: Barry Sanders, Detroit Lions Special Teams Player of the Year: Mel Gray, Detroit Lions Offensive Lineman of the Year: Willie Roaf, New Orleans

Offensive Rookie of the Year: Errict Rhett, Tampa Bay Buccapeer Defensive Lineman of the Year: Reggie White, Green Bay Packers

Linebacker of the Year: Ken Harvey, Washington Redskins Defensive Back of the Year: Deiou Sanders, San Francis-

Defensive Rookie of the Year: Bryant Young, San Francisco 49ers

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in English Sunday

Europea Pesaro, (

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paids to power expaids in over ex1 Limoges in the Baskethall Chama bulky forward had no trouble builying

through the French.

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sound half with help Serb Predrag Danilovic Bologna stayed joint top of July forward Flavio Carsignited the Italian fans three straight slamwhich helped settle the with 15 minutes to play.

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afica (Portugal) 56 (31-35). Leading scorers: lindjana — Milic 17, Haupta lofics - Jean Jacques 18. idro Miguel II. n Barcelona: Barcelona (Spair

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# eventus Cagliari unday

4RIS (AFP) — Italian age leaders Juventus and mixed news on the Tup to Sunday's away fix-ा मांक Cagliari marking haliway point of the sea-

On the up side. German 🖙 Kohler is back, but. maps more ominously. \*A3 1993 world player of er Roberto Baggio is

ad to be out. No over second-placed and fifth-placed Roma lelasi two weeks have put - "times champions firmthe driving seat.

at least rejuvenated Gian-J Vialli and Fabrizio and have done well this on in Baggio's absence. have scored seven 3d Dyear-old sensation sandro Del Piero, who

soon herald the new ation in Italy's national has been a revelation der luventus, who last won the in 1986, have also strength at the other the field in defence. last year's champions Milan and many great

in former years. Juven-Ther 13 goals conceded in matched natches is only matched matched long are languishing in ninth

rama, four points behind thus, host Napoli, who see been rocked by allegaof mafia involvement drug-taking by players a

a tear ago.

Note specifically, a party

Spoil players

The players

April 29 1990, the date players celebrated Angelina-Laura. was a second host third-placed to the thrashed Foggia

A Milan in sixth Argentinian striker Batistuta may be forior being distracted by Solida has so far scored solid in 100 appearances homing the Florence

palin hit his 16th stand on Sunday, Batis-Join Glancas

Real Madrid host with their quest to wind their three-point a draw at Deportivo the last two will be like given Madrid hope

# **European Basketball Roundup**

# Pesaro, Olympiakos top standings

stoppable Joe Binion scored 24 points to power Bologna to 2 74-59 in over exchampions Limoges in the men's European Champion Clubs Basketball Cham-

Binion, a bulky forward who had no trouble builying his way through the French, exploded with 15 points in teh second half with help from Serb Predrag Danilovic as Bologna stayed joint top of Group B.

Lanky forward Flavio Carrera ignited the Italian fans with three straight slamdunks which helped settle the ssue with 15 minutes to play.

American Michael Young led Limoges with 18 points followed by Marc M'Bahia

Dragan Tarlac was in. sparkling form for Olympiakos, netting 26 points, as the Greek club bounced back from last week's defeat to win 69-60 away to Cibona Zag-

Olympiakos top the group on 15 points with Bologna, Efes Pilsen and Barcelona, the Spaniards beating Germany's Bayer Leverkusen 75-

Pesaro of Italy head Group A with 16 points after their 89-76 defeat of close challengers Real Madrid. Greek club Panathinaikos

could have joined the Italian at the top but lost narrowly on to Maccabi Tel Aviv, succumbing 92-91 in overtime. Barcelona's Group B success cut short Bayer Leverkusen's four-game winning

The Spanish League leaders took the initiative, leaping to an early 1-0 lead. But with American base

Tom Garrick in charge of the attack the Germans reduced the deficit to two points half way through the first period. Barcelona held their lead until the interval and then

turned on the style in the second half

First, Salvador Diez notched a pair of triples and then a perfect free throw from Roy Fisher gave the Catalans a virtually unassailable 16point lead.

The visitors fought back bravely but when Garrick was sent off three minutes from time for his fifth personal foul resistance crumbled and Barcelona cruised to vic-

Bayer's Henning Harnisch led the German attack with 14 points while Darryl Middleton top-scored for Barce-

Bologna: Joe Binion 24, Predrag Danilovic 13. Limoges: Michael Young 18, Marc M'Bahia 13.

**STANDINGS** 

GROUP A

Pesaro (Italy)	9	7	2	16
Real Madrid (Spain)	9	6	3	15
Panathinaikos (Greece)	9	6	3	15
CSKA Moscow (Russia)	9	5	4	14
Maccabi Tel Aviv (Israel)	9	5	4	14
Paok Salonika (Greece)	9	3	6	12
Olimpija Ljnbljana (Slovenia)	9	3	6	12
Benfica (Portugal)	9	1	8	10

**GROUP B** 

Olympiakos (Greece)	y	0	3	15
Bologna (Italy)	9	6	3	15
Barcelona (Spain)	9	6	3	15
Efes Pilsen (Turkey)	9	6	3	15
Limoges (France)	9	5	4	14
Bayer Leverkusen (Germany)	9	4	5	13
Clibona Zagreb (Croatia)	9	3	6	12
Joventut Badalona (Spain)		0	9	9

#### RESUTLS

In Rome: Group A

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Leading scorers: Pesaro: Antonello Riva 25, Walter Magnifico 15.

Real Madrid: Arvidas Sabonis 26, Joe Arlauckas 21 In Moscow: CSKA Moscow (Russia) 85 Paok Salonika (Greece) 73 (Halftime 47-38).

in Slovenia: Olimpija Ljubljana (Slovenia) 64 Benfica (Portugal) 56 (31-35). Leading scorers:

Ljubljana - Milic 17, Hauptmann 13, Reed 12 Benfica — Jean Jacques 18, Carlos Lisboa 12, Pedro Miguel 11.

In Barcelona: Barcelona (Spain) 75 Bayer Leverkusen (Germany 64 (35-27).

Leading scorers:

Barceloua: Darryle Middleton 13. Bayer Leverkusen: Henning Harnisch 14 more.

In Zagreb: Cibona Zagreb (Croatia) 60 Olympiakos (Greece) 69 (38-32).

In Bologna: Bologna (Italy) 74 Limoges (France) 59

# Bulls, Cavaliers, Lakers lose

meet Cagliari Sunday

**Juventus** 

PARIS (AFP) - Italian eague leaders Juventus learned mixed news on the run up to Sunday's away fixture with Cagliari marking the halfway point of the sea-

On the up side, German Jurgen Kohler is back, but, perhaps more ominously, FIFA's 1993 world player of the year Roberto Baggio is likely to be out.

Wins over second-placed Parma and fifth-placed Roma in the last two weeks have put the 22-times champions firm-

ly in the driving seat. At least rejuvenated Gianluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravanelli have done well this season in Baggio's absence. Both have scored seven

And 20-year-old sensation Alessandro Del Piero, who could soon herald the new generation in Italy's national squad, has been a revelation this year for coach Marcello

But Juventus, who last won the title in 1986, have also great strength at the other end of the field in defence. Like last year's champions AC Milan and many great sides in former years, Juven-tus have a miserly goals con-

ceded:column. Their 13 goals conceded in by ninth-placed Inter Milan, who are languished.

Parma, four points behind Juventus, host Napoli, who have been rocked by allegations of mafia involvement and drug-taking hy players a

few years ago.

More specifically, a party
on April 29 1990, the date - a:-prials for requested a Napoli players celebrated their league victory on the yacht Angelina-Laura, was allegedly rife with cocaine.

Brescia host third-placed Lazio who thrashed Foggia

, -- Water and p.m. gl Fourth-placed Fiorentina travel to AC Milan in sixth ot, but Argentinian striker Gabriel Batistuta may be forgiven for being distracted by

a club record. Batistuta has so far scored 60 goals in 100 appearances since joining the Florence

side in 1991. Should he hit his 16th LAN THEATRE league goal in 16 appearances this season on Sunday, Batis-

Presents:

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Political satire

Consolidate their three-point servation, please of 1 consolidate their three-point lead. A 5-0 win over Barcelona and a draw at Deportive na and a draw at Deportive na in the last two of their 26th title na and a draw at Deportivo

and finishing strong at Atlanfour-game road trip that began disastrously ended perfectiv for the Utah Jazz. After losing starting centre Felton Spencer for the season at Boston, the Jazz went on to win that game and three more, extending their road winning streak to 14. With a

Utah is two games shy of matching the 1971-72 Lakers' NBA record string. But tying the Lakers, who won 16 straight road games during their incredible 33game victory run, will be tough. Utah will have to win

99-86 victory over Detroit,

at Seattle and at Houston later this month to do lt. Beating a Pistons team that had only nine healthy players was hard enough for the Jazz, who needed a 17-point third quarter from Karl Malone to

break the game open.
"It's tough to win like this on the road, because you can't play great every night," said Malone, who finished with 31 points and 11 re-

A 14-2 run in the third quarter put Utah ahead by 15 with 5:24 left in the period. Joe Dumars scored five straight points to help the Pistons get to 78-69 early in the fourth, hnt Jamie Watson and Antoine Carr ended their hopes with back-to-back

three-point plays.
"It looked to me like we respected the Jazz a little too much," Pistons coach Don Chaney said. "They are a very good team, and I understand that, but we have got to

Jeff Hornacek added 14 points, and John Stockton had 11 points and eight

Heat 121, Celtics 93: Miami returned from a 1-5 road trip to band Boston its worst loss

of the season. Kevin Willis had 25 points and 18 rehounds for the Heat, which shot 58 per cent for the game and never trailed. Gien Rice added 20 points and Billy Owens 18. Dino Radja led the Celtics with 25 points, and Sherman Douglas had 19. The Celtics were hurt by 19 turnovers, while Miami committed only

76ers 92, Hawks 80: Philadelphia broke a nine-game

losing streak by starting fast

The 76ers took control with runs of 17-2 in the first quarter and 16-2 in the second. The Hawks closed with six points three times in the final period, but got no Clarence Weatherspoon

scored 26 points and Dana Barros 24 for Philadelphia, which won for the first time since a 101-94 decision at Portland on Dec. 26. Steve Smith paced Atlanta with 26 points.

Pacers 106, Lakers 105: Derrick McKey bit the winning basket with 39 seconds left and scored a season-high 24 to help Indiana hold off Los

Angeles.

The visiting Lakers, who trailed by 11 with 8:39 to go, rallied to take their only lead of the night on a 3-pointer by Nick Van Exel, who finished with 30 points.

Reggie Miller scored 19 for Indiana, including four 3pointers. The Pacers played without centre Rik Smits, who had the flu.

Hornets 111, Spurs 110: Lar-ry Johnson's layup with 14 seconds left gave Charlotte its ninth victory in 10 games.

The Hornets blew a 22point lead in the second half to fall behind 110-109 before Johnson, who had 24 points, made his basket. Alonzo Mourning then blocked a shot by David Robinson, who scored 42, to preserve the

Charlotte got its 12th straight home victory.

Bucks 97, Bulls 93: Milwaukee got 24 points from rookie Glenn Robinson and 23 from Vin Baker to snap a 16-game losing streak at Chi-

cago.
Todd Day added 19 points
for the Bucks, who last won
there in 1988.

Steve Kerr had a season-high 19 points for Chicago, which lost its fourth straight. Toni Kukoc added 16 and Scottie Pippen 15.

Magic 108, Mavericks 97: Shaquille O'Neal registered his fifth 40-point game this season, scoring 42 to lead Orlando at Dallas.

### **GOREN BRIDGE**

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reprieve to cash in.

We don't like North's jump shift, despite the excellent club support. But there was no need for North to compound the error by jumping to slam over South's heart cue-bid—

we think five clubs would have been

we think five clubs would have been enough.

Obviously, the lead of the jack of spades would have sunk the slam—declarer would have lost a trick in each black suit. However, the suction suggested hearts was North's weak spot, so we are inclined to endoze West's choice of opening lead.

Declarer took the guest of hearts.

lead.

Declarer took the queeo of hearts with the king, then cashed the ace and king at trumps. The remaining high hearts were played aff, a spade being discarded from dummy. Next came four rounds of diamonds and the fart thet East followed to all four was irrelevant—it merely postponed the inevitable. Declarer sluffed two spades from hand.

The groundwork was complete. Declarer exited with a club and received a lucky, though just, re-

Declarer exited with a club and re-ceived a lucky, though just, re-ward—the defender with the king of spades had to win the trump. East had a choice of losing options. A spade away from the king would allow the table's queen to score the fulfilling trick. A red-suit return would permit declarer to ruff in one hand and discard the spade loser from the other. Either way, declarer would lose only a trump trick.

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# Wihdat, Ramtha draw 1-1

AMMAN (J.T.) - Al Wihdat and Al Ramtha Friday drew 1-1 in their match at Ai Hassan Sports City Stadium in Irbid in the 21st week of the First Division Soccer Championship.

Al Wihdat could have se-

cured the title had they won, however the draw still kept them at the top two points ahead of Al Ramtha with one week remaining. Al Faisali are now third

after their 3-0 win over Al Karmel also beat A

Jeel 1-0. Al Hussein will meet Al Jazireh in the final match of the 21st week Saturday (see details and standings in Sunday's roundnp).

# NHL games begin

NEW YORK (RI — The 103-day National Hockey League lockout gave new meaning to the term "kick save" — the owners kicked the players and the players saved the season.

Having demonstrated that at least one side in the hitter dispute actually loves the game of hockey at least as much as money, the world's best players are set to return

The lockout-shortened 48game schedule began Friday, and the format for the 1995 season presents a unique set of circumstances and challenges that are sure to delight some and anger others among fans and players alike.

Teams that get out of the gate fast will have a big advantage, while those that stumble out of the blocks could be in trouble. There will be little or no time to recover from an extended midseason slump or injury.

Before the Rangers against Buffalo, the 1993-94 Stanley Cup banner will be raised at Madison Square Garden, a ceremony feels will go a long way toward easing any bitter feeling New Fans may have over the near cancellation of the season.

Under the format announced by the NHL last week, the not so regular season, which concludes May 3, will be strictly an intra-conference affair. No eastern team can meet a western club before the Stanley Cup finals.

Eastern Conferences fans will not see Gretzky. Russian rocket Pavel Bure, Brett Hull or League MVP Sergei Fedorov, to name a few - a situation that could hurt ticket sales.

Western Confernce clubs will not host Montreal usually a sure sellout - nor will they get a shot at the defending champions.

Celica during last season's New Zealand Rally Three times world champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland becomes Airborne in his Toyota Auriol starts title defence in snowy Monte Carlo

Escort before suffering ankle MONTE CARLO (RI -Frenchman Didier Auriol opens the defence of his accident. world title Saturday in a Monte Carlo classic given extra spice this year hy snow covering the twisting mountain roads and controversial

new regulations. The opening event of the season begins Saturday when the drivers start their cars from five European cines to join the principality for the first timed stage Monday.

The line-up for the race is similar to last year's with Auriol, seeking his fourth win, teaming up with three times world champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland for Toyota to launch a hrand new

Celica GT-four. Auriol's main rival should once again be former champion Carlos Sainz of Spain, who had to watch helplessly as the Frenchman gave his country their first world title after he crashed out of the season's last race, Britain's

RAC Rally. Sainz, who won in Monte Carlo in 1991, expects a strong challenge within his Subaru team from talented Scotsman Colin McRae, who ended Britain's 18-year wait for a home winner by clinching the RAC Rally.

Other main contenders include Frenchman Francois Delecour, who started in style last year by winning in Monte Carlo in his Ford

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management, technical engineering related to

water management, computer, and financial

management. Offerers are requested to pick up RFP No. Jordan 95-004 documents at room 215,

Ministry of Water and Irrigation building, on or before 12:00 O'clock Noon January 25, 1995.

Closing date for offers is 12:00 O'clock Noon March 9, 1995.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNUAL U.S. DIVERSITY IMMIGRATION PROGRAM

The American Embasy in Jordan announces

the start of the Annual Diversity Immigration

Program for 1996. The U.S. Immigration Act. of

1990 makes available worldwide each year, by

random selection, 55,000 visas for permanent

residence in the United States. Visas are

awarded to eligible applicants who win the

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Please do not telephone, write, or fax the American Embassy for any information on this

program. All necessary information is con-

tained in the information handout available at

GOOD LUCK.

the Embassy's Front Gate.

and face injuries in a road Delecour was critical of the

new regulations which will force the teams to field cars with less powerful engines and will reduce mechanical assistance and tyre changes.

"I wouldn't recommend people to come to the Monte Carlo Rally hecause there won't be much to see this year," said an angry De-lecour. "We will have to drive cautiously to spare the tyres and it'll be much less spectacular to watch than in

the previous years." The weather is likey to prove Delecour wrong if the snow which fell heavily in southeastern France earlier this month sticks to the roads, making them icy and treacherous.

The race, which will end Thursday morning after the traditional night stages featuring the Turini Pass, has been held for the most part on dry roads in recent years. Auriol, consistently dep-

rived of a world title until last

year by a string of mishaps,

said he would be able to start

his favourite event in a more

relaxed frame of mind.

the time, the ritle was a main goal and I was thinking about it," he said, "Now that I've got it, I can concentrate on each race without thinking about what will happen at the end of the season.

"Even if I didn't say so a!!

According to Auriol, this year's race will be totally unpredictable because of the new rules. "It's hard to say who's going to win because. with the new tyre regulations. we will have to choose our tyres a day before and then it becomes a lottery as the weather conditions can change fast," he said.

A driver to watch in a season which wil see the start of a new world championship for two-wheel-drive cars will be Armin Schwarz, hack for more after years of ups and

downs. Sacked by Toyota two years ago following countless crashes, the fearless German returns to the team which helped him to his only world championship win so far, in 1991 in Spain.

"My goal is to score a couple of wins and hopefully, I won't be too far from the title when the season ends,

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# Iraq may agree to partial oil exports — diplomats

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq, facing acute shortages of food and medical supplies because of crippling U.N. sanctions, may be willing to settle for partial oil exports under U.N. supervision, Baghdad diplomats said on

"There is talk in town they (Iraqis) are ready to resume the stalled talks on partial exports if such a deal is to hring them closer to the lifting of the trade sanctions," a diplomat said.

Under the wide-ranging sanctions imposed after Irag's 1990 invasion of Kuwait the U.N. blocked Ira-

The sanctions permit Iraq to sell oil worth \$1.6 hillion to pay for urgent humanitarian needs, but Iraq has not used the facility, saying it violates its sovereignty.

The last round of talks on the matter was held in July 1993 when the two sides almost reached agreement before Baghdad had a lastminute change of heart.

The diplomats said Baghdad helieved the political atmosphere was now different and hoped for better

"By resuming talks Irao's aim is also to score another point on the path of com-pliance with U.N. resolutions and strengthen its position at the (U.N.) Security Coun-

another diplomat said. The Security Council formally asked Baghdad this month to reconsider its attitude towards partial oil ex-

The sanctions have devastated Iraq's economy with shortages and hyper-inflation hitting the populace hard. Many people have to rely on subsidised government ra-

Bahrain

protests

immediately surrounded

them in strength, witnesses

the considerable numbers of

police deployed, Thursday

night's street clashes in the

Sitra and Sanahis suhurbs did

not last long. The two areas

remained blocked by police

this week announced that

they had deported an unspe-

cified number of "infiltrators

from abroad," accusing them

of fomenting the unrest in

mainly Shiite Muslim sub-

Street riots flared in

Bahrain for two weeks in

December and erupted anew

last week. They were the

worst trouble to hit Bahrain

since an abortive coup plot

The authorities gave no

names for the deportees but

Sheikh Ali Salman and two

other Shirte Muslim clerics

surfaced later in London,

where they sought political

Oo Thursday, other

Bahrainis in exile named a

fourth Shiite cleric - Sheikh

Adel Al Shola - who they

said had been deported to

hlamed the recent unrest on

foreign agitators. Although

they did not name it, this was

thought to be a reference to

Iran, where the overwhelm-

ing majority of the 60 million

population is Shiite Muslim.

Sunni Muslim Al Khalifa

family. An estimated 55 per

cent of the state's half-million

old preacher who was

arrested briefly last summer

for allegedly inciting unem-

ployed young Shiites to de-

monstrate f r jobs, was pick-

ed up again on Dec. 5 and

charged with masterminding

the unrest to spread anarchy

It was his arrest that trig-

gered the street rioting in

which Bahraini opposition

groups in exile claim as many

as 10 people may have been

killed. These groups reject

the view that it is only Shiites

who are involved in the un-

rest, and say it is a popular

movement for restoration of

the Bahrain parliament dis-

banded 20 years ago, as well

as against unemployment.

on the island.

Sheikh Salman, a 29-year-

population is Shiite.

Bahrain is ruled by the

Bahraini authorities

Syria earlier in the day.

hlamed on Iran in 1981.

Bahrain authorities earlier

on Friday.

They said that because of

cut by about half.

Baghdad pharmacy shelves are almost empty and health officials say government hospitals are operating at less than 50 per cent of capacity. The Iraqi dinar tumbled to

record lows against the dollar when the Security Council this month voted to maintain the sanctions at its 60-day "The (living) conditions

are worsening day after day." declared Iraq's most influential newspaper Babel — pub-lished by President Saddam Hussein's eldest son Uday in a commentary this week.

Iraq was hoping for an end to the oil embargo after it recognised Kuwait and accepted U.N. terms for the scrapping of weapons of mass-destruction.

But the United States' U.N. Amhassador Madeleine Alhright said Iraq had first to comply with its outstanding obligations." Vice-President Taha Yas-

sin Ramadan on Wednesday reitereated Iraqi objections to partial oil exports, saying the U.N. offer presented Iraq with "two choices, one worse than the other.

He said rejection of the terms meant further suffering and untold hardship for the Iraqi people and accepting them would amount to a 'flagrant violation of

Iraq on Friday charged that a U.S. firm chosen to fly U.N. observers to the Iraqi horder with Kuwait had worked for American intelligence and denounced the

choice as a "provocation." The official Al Thawra newspaper said the selection of the U.S. company Evergreen to transport members of the U.N. Iraq-Kuwait IKOM) by helicopter favoured "U.S. acts of espionage on Iraqi territory."

Evergreen took over from the Canadian firm Skyline at' the beginning of 1995 and. according to the paper, im-mediately carried out a mission over an Iraqi port on the Gulf outside the demilitarised zone patrolled by UN-IKOM.

Al Thawra, the mouth-piece of Iraq's ruling Baath Party, charged that the company had been exposed in July 1993 by the Washington Post for taking part in mis-sions to aid U.S. intelligence services in Cuba and Nicar-

symbol of the U.N. for its own aggressive ends" which were already seen "in the regular violations of Iraqi air space by U.S. aircraft hased in neighbouring countries." Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz has slammed Warren Christopher as "insolent" after the U.S. secretary of state said Iraq should be isolated until President Saddam has stepped down from

"Washington is using the

"In all insolence Christopher gives himself the right to choose the leadership in Iraq," Mr. Aziz said in a speech here last Thursday.

"The affair of the embargo no longer reflects interna-tional law or the U.N. charter, hut purely the Americans' decision to maintain the sanctions to force Iraq to ahandon its sovereignty."

Mr. Christopher said in an interview with the Washington Times on Wednesday: "We must isolate Iraq and Iran until there is a change in their governments, a change

# Caller held; search in Turkey on for airman

ANKARA (Agencies) --Authorities vowed to conpreempted tinue searching for a U.S. airman and his son missing on a Turkish mountain after BAHRAIN (AP) — Scores of protesters tried to stage police said on Friday they demonstrations over the captured a man alleged to weekend in at least two subhave made calls saying the urban areas of Bahrain after pair had been kidnapped. the deportation of Shiite Muslim clerics, but riot police

The search is going to continue in (the ski resort of) Kartalkaya into the weekend and maybe next week after leads being followed because the calls turned out to be a dead end." said U.S. embassy spokeswoman Margarete

Istanhul police said they had detained a man who called Turkish media claiming the "Lehanon Freedom Fighters" had abducted Lieutenant Colonel Mike Couillard, 37, and his 10year-old son Matthew. The caller had said they would be killed unless a pro-Iranian querrilla commander was re-

"We are holding the man who made the calls," a policeman said.

However, hopes dimmed Friday of finding alive the Air Force officer and his son.

Col. Couillard and his son Matthew were last seen on a ski lift at Kartalkaya I10 kilometres north of Ankara on Sunday.

Officials believe the bodies are huried under more than a half-metre of snow.

"With everyday that passes we are aware their chances of survival are diminishing." said U.S. Army Col. Ed Fitzgerald, who leads the search efforts.

Col. Fitzgerald said the search operation would be called off Sunday and the ieams would return here when the snow starts melting

in the spring. Col. Fitzgerald said a team of 300 soldiers had combed an area of 35 square kilometres. He added that although the teams found ski tracks of a child on Tuesday and later traces of fire, there

was no further progress. Search teams, pinning their hopes on the fact that Col. Couillard had survival training, said bad weather impeded their progress and a large area still remained where the airman and his son may have found shelter.

# Stoltenberg: UNPROFOR is vital to peace in Croatia

UNITED NATIONS ance, a 27.5-kilometre stretch (USIA) — The presence of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) has been vital to the connnuacion of the ceasefire in Croatia and to implementation of an accord between the Croalian Serbs, says U.N. negotiator Thorvald Stolten-

The moment UNPRO-FOR disappears the people dangerous situation," Stoltenberg, co-chairman of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia (ICFY), told a press briefing in Geneva.

Croatian President Franjo Tudiman informed the United Nations January 12 that he would not accept a further renewal of UNPROFOR in his country beyond March 31, 1995, when the current man-

Mr. Stoltenberg noted that the ceasefire in Croatia has functioned well enough to provide the hasis for negotiations between the Croatian government and the Croatian Serhs, which led to the "Agreement on Economie Cooperation" between the

two parties Dec. 2. The first step of the December agreement has already been implemented. With UNPROFOR assistof highway connecting Croatian government-controlled territory with the selfproclaimed republic of the Krajina Serbs has been

reopened.
Other elements of the agreement also were 10 be implemented by UNPRO-FOR, which currently has its headquarters in Zagreh and 15.230 troops in Croana.

If UNPROFOR leaves Croatia, Mr. Stoltenberg predicted, the breakdown of the ceasefire would probably begin with "a few small incidents, and then...increase...there may be a lot of criticism of the U.N. and UNPROFOR, but the and UNPROFOR, is a lot

On Bosnia, Mr. Stoltenberg stressed that there continues to be "no alternative to a negonated solution. But he added that his optimism about the possibility for a renewal of negotiations had declined over the past several days because of ceasefire violations around Sarajevo.

Bihac and Srebrenica. Mr. Stoltenberg said the five-nation Contact Group, which is scheduled to meet January 19 in Geneva, would continue to work to get the negotiarions going again.



STRANDED AND HIDING: Chechen women who cannot leave Grozny because of lack of money for transportation hide themselves from shelling in the base of a huilding,

where they live after their houses were destroyed in the Russian bombing of the Chechen capital (see page one) (AFP

## Peres tries to cool **Egypt** dispute

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres tried Friday to take the heat out of a simmering war of words with Egypt, saying it was only a "fleeting crisis."

"There is no escalation between our two countries. relations are just going through a fleeting crisis," Mr. Peres told Israeli These relations are

deep and we have to recognise Egypt's central place in the peace process and in the region. Relations between the

two countries have soured mainly over the issue of Israel's reported nuclear arsenal.

Egyptian President Hos-ni Mubarak has threatened Cairo will not renew its signature on the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty in April if Israel does not

commit itself to joining. The two coun both warned they could take harsh measures if the situation deteriorates. Earlier on Friday, an ally

of Mr. Muharak warned Egypt was capable of punishing Israel by frustrating its efforts at Arab-Israeli reconciliacion.

"Israel thinks it is in a position to punish Egypt out it must also consider the fact that Egypt is not powerless, does not have its hands tied and does not lack influence in the Arah and Islamic world," the editor of A! Anram newspaper. Ibrahim Nafee.

The Israeli press last week published a leaked foreign ministry document which urged that "if Egypt continues its negative policies. Israel should take harsh retaliatory mea-

The Israeli document provoked an uproar in Egyp?, which in 1979 became the first Arah country to make peace with Israel.
Mr. Nafee warned:

Egypt is capable of punishing Israel and demonstrating its power to influence relations between Israei and Arab and Islamic parties, and even go beyond that, aithough now is not the time to talk about

"The deliberate leak of the Israeli document to the press ... largely eliminated hopes of establishing a new Middle East based on economic cooperation ... which could integrate Israel," Nafee said.

"Israel will therefore be the big loser by speaking of punishing Egypt." he said. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa is to present a report on "Israeli threats

to national security" on Jan. 28, according to Cairo press reports. And Mr. Muharak, during a trip to Paris, blamed Israel for the faitering pace

Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin is due in Cairo at the weekend to try to defuse the tension. He will also take part in a meeting of the liaison committee for multilateral peace talks, his ministry

of the peace process.

# Islamic rule in Algeria inevitable — FIS leader PARIS (Agencies) - The

leader in exile of Algeria's outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) said in an interview published on Friday Islamic rule was inevitable in Algeria, and urged the West to press Algiers to settle its crisis peacefully.

"The Western nations must understand that, sooner or later, Muslim countries will be governed by Islamists. This is the wish of the people." said Rahah Kehir, president of the FIS executive in

Mr. Kehir lives near Cologne and has applied for asylum in Germany, he was interviewed there hy the French daily La Croix.

He told the newspaper the West must do more than simply appeal to Algiers to accept a joint opposition proposal for ending violence in the strife-torn country.

"France and the other Western nations must clearly support the Algerian opposition agreement. Those who have continuously called for a dialogue and a political settlement must now push for it." Mr. Kebir said.

One way the West could do so would be to tie economic aid and deht rescheduling to a "true dialogue" with the opposition, he said.

This is not now the case and I reject the argument of (French Foreign Minister) Alain Juppe that to reschedule Algeria's deht is to help

NICOSIA (AP) — Mehdi

Bazargan, Iran's first prime

minister after the 1979 Isla-

mic revolution. died Friday in

Switzerland, the Islamic Re-

public News Agency (IRNA)

Bazargan led a lame-duck

government that appealed for

reason amid the revolution-

ary fervor that culminated in

the takeover of the U.S.

The state-run Iranian news

agency, monitored in Cyprus,

said he died at a hospital in

Bern, Switzerland. It said he

was suffering from heart dis-

ease but did not give a speci-

Bazargan had been hospi-

talised in Tehran late last

year with a heart complaint.

He was born in 1907, which

would make him either 87 or

The soft-spoken, French-

educated engineer was a re-

lentless campaigner for

democracy and human rights

Less than a year after he

was appointed by Avatollah

Khomeini to head the pro-

visional government that re-

placed the ousted monarchy,

he resigned as premier when

Khomeini endorsed the 1979

embassy siege, in which 52

Americans were taken hos-

the staunchest supporters of

Khomeini and the revolution

he led, to one of the harshest

After the revolution, the

Freedom Movement he

founded in 1961 was toler-

ated although its members

were much harassed, until

the government outlawed it

It persisted in the form of a

Bazargan went from one of

tage for 444 days.

critics.

embassy in Tehran.

fic cause of death.

88 when he died.

for most of his life.

reported.

Bazargan, Iran's first

post-Shah premier, dies

the Algerian people," he

Eight Algerian opposition drafted a joint proposal in Rome to end their country's civil strife, which has killed as many as 30,000 people since the military in 1992 scrapped a general election the FIS was poised to win,

An Algerian spokesman and the interior minister have since dismissed the proposal. but Mr. Kebir said he remained optimistic.

Apart from these two, what is worth nothing is the absence of official reaction," he said. "That shows the authorities are still thinking. It would be very embarrassing for them to reject this peace offer."

He described the FIS as eager for dialogue and at least somewhat flexible in its demands. He acknowledged it had agreed, for example, to drop an earlier demand for punishment of those responsible for cancelling the 1992 elections as a condition for talks.

wants to be realistic," he said. "We must first get out of this crisis, which is very dangerous. Neither the army nor the Islamic opposition is today in a position to win militarily.

U.S. view

The agreement hy Algerian opposition parties and

spinoff, the Society for the Defence of Freedom, until

September 1991 when eight

of the society's members or sympathisers — including

former government ministers

secret trials for treason.

- were imprisoned following

They were among more

than 40 people arrested in

mid-1990 after 90 leading

liberals signed a scathing

open letter to President

Hashemi Rafsanjani deman-

in June 1989, Khomeini laun-

ched a veiled attack on

Bazargan and his ilk, describ-

ing them as "liberals," an

appellation that thereafter

became a dirty word in Ira-

At a time when the coun-

try's new clerical rulers prop-

ounded "revolutionary jus-

tice" in which thousands

were summarily executed

without so much as a hearing,

Bazargan appealed for justice

In a speech at Tehran Uni-

versity before resigning in

November 1979, he said:

"don't expect me to act in the

manner of (Khomeini) who,

head down, moves ahead like

a hulldozer, crushing rocks,

roots and stones in his path. I

am a delicate passenger car

and must ride on a smooth,

Bazargan earned a degree

thermodynamics at the

University of Paris at a time

when study ahroad was a rare

He returned home in 1942

thing for a young Iranian.

to teach at Tehran Universi-

ty, where he won a reputa-

tion as one of Iran's best

mathematicians and was

awarded the chair of thermo-

dynamics at the university's

asphalted road.'

nian politics.

and calm.

In a speech before he died

ding freedom and justice.

conditions for negotiating with the military-installed government could help end the civil war, says a senior U.S. official.

The Rome meeting "was a significant event, and one which we think could be built upon to find a path forward," Assistant Secretary of State Robert Pelletreau told reporters Thursday.

"We continue to counsel a path towards political dialogue and a return to political processes," Mr. Pelletreau said, adding that Algeria should "try to hroaden the political base of the govern-

The war between Islamic extremists and security forces in Algeria took on a new macahre note when a dead body boohy-trapped with a bomb underneath killed two people and seriously injured policeman.

The communique said the bomh placed under the body of a slain civilian went off when two people and a policeman turned it over. The body was found near Blida, about 60 kilometres south of Algiers.

Security forces also re-ported that five people working for a state-run company were injured in Bouira, east of Algiers, when a stolen car boohy-trapped by an armed group exploded as the five tried to recover the vehicle.

Mehdi Bazargan

pany's operations.

When Prime Minister

Mohammad Mossadegh

stripped the B tish-owned

Anglo-Iranian O: Co. of its

assets and nanonalised the

industry, he dispatched

Bazargan to head the com-

ousted, Bazargan plunged

into a tireless campaign to

overthrow Shah Mohammad

Reza Pahlavi, whom he ac-

cused of human rights viola-

tions. He was jailed several

times, including a five-year

term beginning in 1962. This allied him with

Khomeini, who assigned him

to direct the oil industry

strike in 1978 that crippled

the main pillar of Iran's eco-

lived provisiona govern-

ment, Bazargan was con-

stantly frustrated. "They

have put a knife in my hand,

hut it is a knife with only a

handle. Others are holding

the hlade," he said in describ-

Khomeini basically over the

issue of who should run the

country. While Khomeini be-

lieved that the Shiite clergy

was best suited for the task,

Bazargan — a devout Muslim

- helieved in a government

based on Islamie principles

hut run by laymen.

He parted company with

ing his government.

But as head of the short-

nomv.

After Mossadegh was

### Camilla granted divorce

romantically linked to Prince Charles, and her husband were granted an uncontested appear in court for the grant. John 19 Number 5824 ing of a degree hard. ing of a degree NISI, or conditional decree of di vorce. The separation is expected to become final within six weeks. The couple have two children — Tom, 20, a student at Oxford, and Laura, 16. Andrew Parker
Bowles, 55, and his wife,
Carnilla, 47, said in a joint
sratement earlier this month
that they had jointly agreed
to the split. "We have grown
apart to such an extent that
with the exception of an with the exception of our before her marriage, the second before his. Prime was Armar Al Safedi in Aqaba Charles confirmed in a television interview last year that he had broken his marriage vows, after his relationship with Princess Diana had

#### Diana being counseled for eating disorder

Andrew Morton published in

The Sun said Princess Di-

ana's first session with Ms.

Orhach occurred in Novem-

ber within two weeks of

serialisation in the Sunday

Times of excerpts from

Prince Of Wales. Mr. Dimb

lehy's book, published with

authorisation of the prince said Prince Charles, 46, had

three affairs with Mrs. Parket

**Doctor extracts** 

NEW YORK (R) - A New

York doctor said be extracted

sperm from the corpse of a

man who died to police cus

tody so the man's widow

would be able to bear his

and the man's family it be-

came evident that this man

had just fairly recently been

married and had expected

and planned to have children," Dr. Peter Schlegel, 2

urologist at New York

Hospital-Cornell Medical

Centre, said in a telephose

interview. The man,

Anthony Baez, died in police

custody on a street in Decem-

ber after an argument and his

death is under investigation.

The family attorney says the

police killed him using an

illegal choke hold. Dr.

Schlegel extracted the sperm

hours later after his widow

Mirabel had asked the medic-

al examiner whether the

sperm of her husband of two

years could be saved. Dr.

Schlegel said the procedure

he performed involved mak-

ing a small cut in the wbe

thar carries the sperm from

the testicles back to the body.

and slipping in a tiny plastic

needle and flushing out the

sperm from

dead man

LONDON (AP) - Princess Diana has heen having counseling sessions with Susie Orbach, an expert in the eating disorder builing nervosa, the London tabloid the Sun reported. It said close friends fear that the 33-year-old princess is under great stress after learning the full deceit of her husband Prince Charles' three affairs with Mrs. Parker Bowles. The Sun said Princess Diana has made three visits in the last two months to the North | I relations are old and London home of Ms. Index... a determined de-Orhach, the most recent I'm work together for the Monday, paying £70 (\$109) on of this nation," King for each session. It said Ms. Orbach, author of the book sta at the Royal Palace 'Fat Is A Feminist Issue" which blames men for causing many of women's emo- since since tional problems, has coun 2 1990-91 Gulf crisis, also seled thousands of women

1992 reported that she suf MAN (Petra) - The fered from bulimia nervosa. and of Ministers, in a It quoted named friends who rating held Saturday, are widely believed to have roved the government's talked to Mr. Morton with sement which will he prethe approval of the princess. and to the Lower House of sament on Wednesday Figure of confidence from legislature. The meeting achaired by Prime Minis-Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.

# when she was married and arthito meets

An Prince Narchito and Masako met the Almad Al Sahah, on rday on the first day of a the East tour aimed at ghening ties with the the official san News Agency KUNA dienior officials were preat the meeting.

# FLP-GC Says 6

ARUT (AFP) — Six guerof the Popular Front for Command (PFLP including the 38-year-

## ench ald worker hains captive

GADISHU (AFP) ADISHU (AFP)

U.N. Operation in kidnepped Saturday

or had been released

letracted the announce the announcedier a flood of denials. agency International

Golan which will produce \$15

Golan water was produce \$2 m.

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" including grants and mornes LONDON (AP) — Camilla Parker Bowles, who has been romantically linked

children and a lasting friendship, there is little of common interest between us," their statement said.

Mrs. Parker Bowles is reputed to have had three affairs with Prince Charles, the first MAJESTY King Hus-

a and Egyptian President ani Muharak on Saturday delged to develop daman-Egyptian ries and work towards reconciliaamong Arab states. Addressing 2 press conferor a the end of a threeor visit here by Mr. wazk, King Hussein said alordanian-Egyptian relam will return to their mions level in terms of meration, coordination

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joint action for the bea of the Arab Nation." felcoming the Egyptian zident as "dear brother." King said the summit had added an agreement that 2 two leaderships would main contacts at all The future is full of good-

m. we are brothers and atoling the Red Sea. M. Mubarak, who was on

# with emotional stress. A hiography of the Princes, Diana: Her True Story, by Wicy statement

### Jonathan Dimhleby's hioga-phy of Prince Charles, The hydisplaced lks open today on

ARU (AFP) — Egyptian. Tanian and Palestinian are to meet here to prepare a joint Bowles, the reputed love of refugees from the Arab-Israeli war. occurred when they were stiming officials said.

### that the third began some in of Kuwait married Princess Diana MAIT (R) — Japan's

#### children. "After speaking Ighters killed with the medical examiner

Liberation of Palestineere killed in an attack A Israeli patrol in South Thursday. the amounced Saturday. PILP-GC said the six Palestinians and

Against Famine
Said 24-year old
Worker Rudy Marcq
Metring held in Moga17 by gunmen by gunmen.

pulled safety into his

the con quake i The day's shocks the Ko There v ports of from the

Heav for Su feared topple! Police

efforts: still list Near injured Severel: troyed taken r have ca

lots. "Find who are